

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 609

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BEAULLIEU, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYD, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARVER, CHENEVERT, CREWS, ECHOLS, GREEN, HILFERTY, HORTON, MIKE JOHNSON, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MILLER, MOORE, MURRAY, NEWELL, OWEN, PHELPS, SAWYER, SCHLEGEL, TAYLOR, WALTERS, WILEY, AND WYBLE

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1165.1(D), relative to healthcare information records; to provide for the
3 exemption of fees for medical records when requested for disability benefits
4 administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Louisiana
5 Department of Veterans Affairs; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1165.1(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1165.1. Healthcare information; records

9 * * *

10 D.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, no
11 healthcare provider, healthcare facility, or custodian of healthcare information shall
12 charge any fee for the preparation, reproduction, handling, or transmission of
13 medical records when such records are requested by or on behalf of a veteran for the
14 sole purpose of submitting a claim for disability benefits administered by the United
15 States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Louisiana Department of Veterans
16 Affairs.

17 (2) For purposes of this Subsection, "veteran" has the same meaning as
18 provided in R.S. 13:5364.

19 (3) The exemption provided in this Subsection shall apply only once per
20 veteran and shall not apply to any subsequent request for medical records regardless
21 of purpose.

1 (4) A healthcare provider or custodian may require reasonable documentation
2 establishing veteran status and that the request is made in connection with a
3 disability benefits claim prior to applying the exemption.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____