

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 488

BY REPRESENTATIVE IVEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

STATE AGENCIES: Requires state departments, agencies, boards, and commissions to accept cash and credit cards for certain transactions

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1322(A) and R.S. 49:316.1 (A)(1) and to enact R.S. 39:249,
3 relative to state agencies; to require state departments, agencies, boards, and
4 commissions to accept cash in payment of certain obligations; to require state
5 departments, agencies, boards, and commissions to accept credit cards, debit cards,
6 and similar devices in payment of obligations; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 39:249 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §249. Payment of obligations to state departments, agencies, boards, and
10 commissions

11 Any state department, agency, board, commission, or other state entity which
12 accepts payments for obligations due shall accept cash for any transaction of two
13 hundred fifty dollars or less as a means of satisfying the obligation. This Section
14 shall in no way prohibit a state department, agency, board, commission, or other state
15 entity from accepting other forms of payment as authorized by law.

16 Section 2. R.S. 40:1322(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

17 §1322. Credit card, charge card, and debit card transactions with the Department of
18 Public Safety and Corrections; procedures for acceptance; administrative
19 action

20 A. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services,
21 or any authorized agent of the department, ~~is authorized to~~ shall accept credit cards,

1 charge cards, or debit cards for the payment of fees, fines, taxes, penalties, and
2 interest. The department may enter into agreements with issuing companies and
3 banks as are necessary to implement the use of these cards.

4 * * *

5 Section 3. R.S. 49:316.1 (A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §316.1. Payments by treasury approved credit and debit cards; authorizations;
7 contracts; fees

8 A.(1) The state, through any department, agency, board, commission, or
9 other state entity hereinafter referred to as "state entity" ~~may~~ shall accept payment
10 of any obligation such state entity is authorized to collect, including but not limited
11 to taxes, fees, charges, licenses, service fees or charges, fines, penalties, interest,
12 sanctions, stamps, surcharges, assessments, obligations, and any other similar
13 charges or obligations to any state entity hereinafter referred to collectively as "state
14 charges" by credit cards, debit cards, or similar payment devices approved by the
15 treasurer as provided in this Section.

16 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Ivey

HB No. 488

Abstract: Requires state entities to accept cash for transactions of \$250 or less and requires state agencies to accept credit cards, debit cards, or similar payment devices.

Proposed law requires any state department, agency, board, commission, or other state entity which accepts payments for obligations due to accept cash for any transaction \$250 or less as a means of satisfying the obligation.

Present law authorizes state agencies to accept credit cards, debit cards, or similar payment devices approved by the treasurer and provides for the treasurer to establish fees for such transactions (R.S. 49:316.1) and provides for a separate authorization for the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services (R.S. 40:1322(A)), to accept similar cards. Present law allows for the collection of fees on credit card transactions.

Proposed law retains the fee provisions of present law, but requires state agencies to accept credit cards on transactions.

(Amends R.S. 40:1322(A) and R.S. 49:316.1 (A)(1); Adds R.S. 39:249)