

## HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 479 by Representative Barras

**ETHICS:** Provides an exception to annual ethics training requirements for certain hospital employees and requires additional ethics training for heads of certain executive branch departments

### Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Adds provisions requiring each head of a department of the executive branch of state government, except a statewide elected official, to receive an additional one hour of education and training on contract ethics during each year of his public employment or term of office, as the case may be, commencing Jan. 1, 2014.

### Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law (R.S. 42:1170(A)) requires each public servant to receive a minimum of one hour of education and training on the Code of Governmental Ethics during each year of his public employment or term of office, as the case may be. Defines "public servant" as a public employee or an elected official. Exempts from this requirement any person who is a public servant solely because he serves as an uncompensated volunteer fireman or an uncompensated auxiliary or reserve law enforcement officer.

Proposed law provides an exemption from present law for a nonsalaried employee of a hospital owned or operated by a hospital service district as defined in present law (R.S. 46:1072) unless the employee is authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the hospital for goods or services or the duties of the employee include the supervision of another public employee.

Proposed law additionally provides that commencing on Jan. 1, 2014, each head of a department, except a statewide elected official, of the executive branch enumerated in present law (R.S. 36:4(A)) shall be required to receive an additional one hour of education and training on the ethics code during each year of his public employment or term of office, as the case may be. Provides that the additional topic to be addressed shall be contract ethics.

Present law (R.S. 46:1071 et seq.) provides relative to hospital service districts' ability to compete. Defines "hospital service district" as a political subdivision of the state organized pursuant to an Act of the legislature or pursuant to present law (R.S. 46:1051 et seq) and a hospital owned by a city, parish, or other political subdivision of the state or owned or operated by the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College. Proposed law applies present law definition to proposed law. Adds a reference to proposed law exemption from mandatory ethics training requirements. Otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 42:1170(A)(3)(a); Adds R.S. 42:1170(A)(3)(c) and R.S. 46:1076.1)