

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 482

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

VOCATIONAL REHAB. Provides relative to the Louisiana Rehabilitation Services.
(gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 23:3001, 3021, 3031, and 3045, relative to Louisiana
3 Rehabilitation Services; to provide for acceptance of federal act to promote
4 vocational rehabilitation; to provide relative to prevention of blindness, vocational
5 training, and rehabilitation; to provide relative to definitions; to provide relative to
6 expenditures; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 23:3001, 3021, 3031, and 3045 are hereby amended and reenacted
9 to read as follows:

10 §3001. Acceptance of federal act to promote vocational rehabilitation

11 The state of Louisiana accepts the provisions and benefits of the ~~act of~~
12 ~~congress~~ **Act of Congress** entitled "An act to provide for the promotion of vocational
13 rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry or otherwise and their return to civil
14 employment", 29 U.S.C.A. §701 et seq., and will observe and comply with all
15 requirements of such act.

16 * * *

17 §3021. Prevention of blindness, vocational training, and rehabilitation

1 The Louisiana Workforce Commission may establish and administer an
2 adequate system of conservation of sight and prevention of blindness, vocational
3 training, and rehabilitation for the blind and may make ~~the~~ such rules and regulations
4 necessary for the efficient administration thereof.

5 * * *

6 §3031. Definitions

7 The ~~term~~ phrase "any person who is blind" used in this Subpart, shall extend
8 to any person, who is totally blind in both eyes, or to any person whose sight with
9 the use of both eyes is so impaired as to make the sense of sight of no practical
10 benefit or help in the pursuit of business, or in the course of earning a living.

11 * * *

12 §3045. Expenditures

13 A. Money in the ~~trust~~ fund from vending machines located on federal
14 property shall be distributed for the primary purpose of the establishment and
15 maintenance of retirement or pension plans, for health insurance, and contributions
16 for the provisions of paid sick leave and vacation time for blind vendors, if approved
17 by majority vote of blind vendors licensed by the department after the department
18 has provided to each vendor information on all matters relevant to such purposes.
19 Income not expended for the primary purpose as set out in this Subsection shall be
20 used for the maintenance and replacement of equipment, the purchase of new
21 equipment, management services, and securing a fair return to vendors, or as
22 provided by state or federal guidelines.

23 B. Money in the ~~trust~~ fund from vending machines located on state-owned
24 property or on property leased by the state or any state agency, or on other property
25 shall be distributed for any purpose associated with the provisions of the Randolph-
26 Sheppard Act as may be determined by the department.

27 * * *

28 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
29 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
3 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

DIGEST

Heitmeier (SB 482)

Present law provides the state of Louisiana accepts the provisions and benefits of the Act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for the promotion of vocational rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry or otherwise and their return to civil employment," 29 U.S.C.A. §701 et seq., and will observe and comply with all requirements of such act.

Present law provides the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) may establish and administer an adequate system of conservation of sight and prevention of blindness, vocational training, and rehabilitation for the blind and may make the rules and regulations necessary for the efficient administration thereof.

Present law provides the term "any person who is blind" used in present law, shall extend to any person, who is totally blind in both eyes, or to any person whose sight with the use of both eyes is so impaired as to make the sense of sight of no practical benefit or help in the pursuit of business, or in the course of earning a living.

Present law provides money in the trust fund from vending machines located on federal property shall be distributed for the primary purpose of the establishment and maintenance of retirement or pension plans, for health insurance, and contributions for the provisions of paid sick leave and vacation time for blind vendors, if approved by majority vote of blind vendors licensed by the department after the department has provided to each vendor information on all matters relevant to such purposes. Further, income not expended for the primary purpose as set out in present law shall be used for the maintenance and replacement of equipment, the purchase of new equipment, management services, and securing a fair return to vendors, or as provided by state or federal guidelines.

Present law provides money in the trust fund from vending machines located on state-owned property or on property leased by the state or any state agency, or on other property shall be distributed for any purpose associated with the provisions of the Randolph-Sheppard Act as may be determined by LWC.

Proposed law makes technical corrections.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 23:3001, 3021, 3031, and 3045)