

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 404

BY REPRESENTATIVE HENRY BURNS

SUNSET LAW: Re-creates the Department of Veterans Affairs

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 49:191(7)(a) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(5)(j), relative to the Department of  
3 Veterans Affairs, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the  
4 Department of Veterans Affairs and the statutory entities made a part of the  
5 department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory  
6 authority for the existence of such statutory entities; and to provide for related  
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the  
10 statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30,  
11 2014, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of  
12 Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

13 Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Veterans  
14 Affairs and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1  
15 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2019, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department  
16 of Veterans Affairs may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions  
17 of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

18 Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that  
19 those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

20 Section 4. R.S. 49:191(7)(a) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

1 §191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-  
2 out period for statutory entities; table of dates

3 Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the  
4 legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their  
5 operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority  
6 for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of  
7 July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

8 \* \* \*

9 (7) July 1, 2018:

10 (a) The Department of Veterans Affairs and all statutory entities made a part  
11 of the department by law.

12 Section 5. R.S. 49:191(5)(j) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

13 Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2014; if vetoed by the  
14 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on  
15 June 30, 2014, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

#### 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)]

Henry Burns

HB No. 404

**Abstract:** Re-creates the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

Present law (Sunset) provides that the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and all the statutory entities made a part of that department by law shall begin to terminate their operations on July 1, 2014, and that all legislative authority for such entities shall cease as of July 1, 2015, unless the legislature enacts a bill authorizing the re-creation of the department and its statutory entities prior thereto.

Proposed law provides for the general re-creation of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and its statutory entities, effective June 30, 2014, in accordance with the "sunset law". Proposed law supersedes the provisions of the "sunset law" which set out the procedure for review and re-creation and which require a separate bill to re-create each statutory entity with the department along with additional provisions. Proposed law makes July 1, 2019, the new termination date and termination would begin July 1, 2018, unless the department is re-created again.

Effective June 30, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 49:191(7)(a); Repeals R.S. 49:191(5)(j))