

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
Senate Bill No. 360 By Senator Riser

May 22, 2014

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 360 by Senator Riser, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That House Floor Amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 proposed by Representative Havard and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 14, 2014, be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Neil Riser

Representative Joel C. Robideaux

Senator Barrow Peacock

Representative Kenny Havard

Senator Ronnie Johns

Representative Joseph P. Lopinto

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by LG Sullivan.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 360 by Senator Riser

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

TAX/TAXATION. Provide for reimbursement of expenses for defending assessments. (gov sig)

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

Added provisions regarding notice of valuations by the Louisiana Tax Commission to include notice to the assessor and each tax recipient body affected by the assessment in the notices.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law, relative to actions requiring an assessor to defend the "correctness" of an assessment, requires each tax recipient body to reimburse the assessor on a pro rata basis for the expense involved in the defense if the tax commission upholds the assessor's valuation within 10%.

Proposed law retains present law and applies such reimbursement to expenses incurred in an assessor's successful defense of the "legality" of an assessment.

Proposed law further requires reimbursement to be paid to the assessor by the tax collector from the taxes that were successfully defended prior to disbursal of the remaining balance to the affected tax recipient bodies.

Present law requires the assessor to furnish an itemized expense voucher detailing the amounts appropriated for defense of the assessment.

Proposed law retains present law and specifies that the voucher shall be furnished to the tax collector.

Proposed law deletes requirement for the assessor to:

- (1) Receive prior approval from a certain proportion of tax recipient bodies before contracting obligations.
- (2) Give them advance notice before employing counsel or appraisers.
- (3) Provide an estimate of anticipated expenses.

Proposed law provides that it is applicable to disputes pending on the effective date of proposed law and all disputes arising thereafter.

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

(Amends R.S. 47:1989.1(A) and (B); repeals R.S. 47:1989.1(C))