The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ben Huxen.

DIGEST

SB 136 Engrossed 2016 Regular Session Ward

Present law provides that no payment of attorney fees shall be made out of state funds in the absence of express statutory authority, except such payment of attorney fees as may be approved by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget during the interim between legislative sessions.

Proposed law eliminates that requirement and provides that the litigation subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget can approve such fees at any time.

Present law provides that the attorney general, or any state agency, board, or commission, not including any public postsecondary education institution, cannot incur fees for legal services in excess of the greater of (1) $500 per hour per person or (2) the maximum rate approved by the Attorney Fee Review Board.

Proposed law changes the limitation to $1,000 per hour per person.

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

(Amends R.S. 42:262(B) and (D) and R.S. 49:259(C)(2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary A to the original bill

1. Deleted repeal of provisions providing certain exemptions from deposits of funds into Dept. of Justice Legal Support Fund.