

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL
OF THE
SENATE
OF THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

**Fifty-Second Regular Session of the Legislature
Under the Adoption of the
Constitution of 1974**

Senate Chamber
State Capitol
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Monday, March 16, 2026

The Senate was called to order at 4:41 o'clock P.M. by Hon. J. Cameron Henry, Jr., President of the Senate.

Morning Hour

CONVENING ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mr. President	Duplessis	Morris
Abraham	Foil	Myers
Allain	Hodges	Owen
Barrow	Kleinpeter	Price
Bass	Lambert	Seabaugh
Carter	Luneau	Wheat
Cathey	Miller	
Connick	Mizell	
Total - 22		

ABSENT

Boudreaux	Jackson-Andrews	Selders
Cloud	Jenkins	Stine
Edmonds	McMath	Talbot
Fesi	Miguez	Womack
Harris	Pressly	
Hensgens	Reese	
Total - 16		

The President of the Senate announced there were 22 Senators present and a quorum.

Prayer

The prayer was offered by Chaplain David Ziegler, following which the Senate joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Reading of the Journal

On motion of Senator Owen, the reading of the Journal was dispensed with and the Journal of March 11, 2026, was adopted.

Message from the House

**CONCURRING IN
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

March 16, 2026

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives has finally concurred in the following Senate Concurrent Resolutions:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4—
BY SENATOR MIZELL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commemorate the celebration of St. Patrick's Day and recognize the cultural and historic links between Ireland and Louisiana and the establishment of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus.

Reported without amendments.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7—
BY SENATOR WHEAT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 7, 2026, as Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Day at the state capitol.

Reported without amendments.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—
BY SENATOR WHEAT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Monday, March 16, 2026, as Amite Oyster Festival Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to commend the Amite Oyster Festival for its historical, cultural, and economic significance to the city of Amite, and Tangipahoa Parish for its enduring legacy since 1976.

Reported without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT
Clerk of the House of Representatives

**Introduction of Senate Bills
and Joint Resolutions**

SENATE BILL NO. 406—
BY SENATOR OWEN

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:338.265, relative to the city of Slidell; to authorize the governing authority of the city, subject to voter approval, to levy and collect a hotel occupancy tax; to provide for the use of the tax proceeds; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

The bill was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 407—
BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 18:1276 and to repeal R.S. 18:1276.1, relative to congressional districts; to provide for the redistricting of Louisiana's congressional districts; to provide with respect to positions and offices, other than congressional, which are based upon congressional districts; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

The bill was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

Introduction of Senate Resolutions

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21—
BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, March 17, 2026, as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

Senator Duplessis asked for and obtained a suspension of the rules to read Senate Resolution No. 21 a first and second time.

On motion of Senator Duplessis the resolution was read by title and adopted.

March 16, 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study and recommend legislation relative to the division of retirement benefits of a former spouse in the partition of community property.

The resolution was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 23—
BY SENATOR MYERS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, March 17, 2026, as Nurse Practitioner Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

Senator Myers asked for and obtained a suspension of the rules to read Senate Resolution No. 23 a first and second time.

On motion of Senator Myers the resolution was read by title and adopted.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24—
BY SENATOR STINE

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and to recognize and celebrate the 2026 Bright Lights Awards Honorees for their outstanding contribution to the cultural and educational fabric of Louisiana.

The resolution was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25—
BY SENATOR WHEAT

A RESOLUTION

To designate March 17, 2026, as Louisiana Professional Surveyors Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to recognize National Surveyors Week, which honors the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors for its contributions in protecting property rights, supporting economic development, and promoting the land surveying profession in Louisiana.

Senator Wheat asked for and obtained a suspension of the rules to read Senate Resolution No. 25 a first and second time.

On motion of Senator Wheat the resolution was read by title and adopted.

**Introduction of
Senate Concurrent Resolutions**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13—
BY SENATOR FOIL AND REPRESENTATIVE WILEY
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Saturday, March 21, 2026, as World Down Syndrome Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and commend the efforts of the Down Syndrome Awareness Group and the various Buddy Walks occurring throughout the state.

The resolution was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

**Senate Resolutions on
Second Reading**

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Brooklyn Antoinette Kersey on being selected as the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at Doyle High School in Livingston Parish.

On motion of Senator Hodges the resolution was read by title and adopted.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the feasibility of allowing an exception to the homestead exemption from seizure for certain unpaid or accelerated costs subject to the Louisiana Condominium Act.

The resolution was read by title and referred by the President to the Committee on Judiciary A.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Grady R. Hazel, CPA, CGMA, and to honor his extraordinary life, leadership, and enduring contributions to the state of Louisiana and the accounting profession.

On motion of Senator Foil the resolution was read by title and adopted.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 20—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Maggie Danielle Richardson on being selected as the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at Albany High School in Livingston Parish.

On motion of Senator Hodges the resolution was read by title and adopted.

**Senate Concurrent Resolutions on
Second Reading**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11—
BY SENATOR FESI

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create and provide for the Anchor Home Task Force to study the feasibility of offering tax credits to incentivize the hiring of resident Louisiana college graduates to live and work in Louisiana during the first five years after graduation.

The resolution was read by title and referred by the President to the Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12—
BY SENATOR BASS AND REPRESENTATIVE HORTON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend John Keith, of AllState Land and Timber, upon being named the "Louisiana Outstanding Logger of the Year" and to recognize his commitment to practicing safe and efficient logging practices in Louisiana.

The resolution was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

Message from the House

**ASKING CONCURRENCE IN
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

March 11, 2026

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives has finally passed and asks your concurrence in the following House Concurrent Resolutions:

HCR No. 13

Respectfully submitted,
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT
Clerk of the House of Representatives

**House Concurrent Resolutions
on First Reading**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13—

BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Crimestoppers of Greater New Orleans (GNO) on the occasion of its forty-fifth anniversary and to recognize March 2026 as Louisiana Crimestoppers Month.

The resolution was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

Reports of Committees

The following reports of committees were received and read:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON

RETIREMENT

Senator Edward J. "Ed" Price, Chair on behalf of the Committee on Retirement, submitted the following report:

March 16, 2026

To the President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed by your Committee on Retirement to submit the following report:

SENATE BILL NO. 13—

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(iv), to enact R.S. 11:102.2(A)(5)(a), and to repeal R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(v), and (e)(ii) and (iii), relative to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for the calculation of employer contributions, minimum employer contribution rates, amortization of the unfunded accrued liability, and treatment of contribution variances for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 14—

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:710.3 and to repeal R.S. 11:710, 710.1, and 710.2, relative to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for reemployment of retired teachers; to allow for a retirement benefit while working, subject to conditions; to provide for earning limits; to provide for supplemental benefits; to provide for critical shortages; to provide for reporting and notification requirements; to provide for employee and employer contributions; to provide for service credits; to provide for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments.

SENATE BILL NO. 20—

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 11:102(B)(1)(a) and to repeal R.S. 11:102(E)(4), 102.3, and 1145.1, relative to the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System; to provide relative to determination of employer

contributions; to provide relative to amortization of certain actuarial gains; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 21—

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(iv), to enact R.S. 11:102.1(A)(5), and to repeal R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(v), (e)(ii) and (iii), and (h) through (j), relative to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for the calculation of employer contributions, minimum employer contribution rates, amortization of the unfunded accrued liability, and treatment of contribution variances for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 22—

BY SENATOR CARTER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:1732(14)(a)(xiv), relative to participation in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for an additional employer in the system; to provide for membership of the office of the constable of the New Orleans Second City Court; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

Respectfully submitted,
EDWARD J. "ED" PRICE
Chair

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON

REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS

Senator Franklin J. Foil, Chair on behalf of the Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, submitted the following report:

March 16, 2026

To the President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed by your Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to submit the following report:

SENATE BILL NO. 128—

BY SENATOR FOIL

AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 47:818.52(D), the introductory paragraph of 1516.1(B), 1532(A), 1562(A), 1565(A), 1566(B), and the introductory paragraph of 1602(D)(2), relative to certain notices sent by the Department of Revenue; to provide relative to authorized changes of address by the Department of Revenue; to provide for private entities from which addresses may be obtained; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments.

SENATE BILL NO. 149—

BY SENATOR FOIL

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 39:1365(7) and (10), relative to the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds; to provide for bid requirements; to provide relative to maturity dates; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments.

March 16, 2026

SENATE BILL NO. 180—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 21(K)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to ad valorem tax exemptions; to provide relative to the ad valorem tax exemption for certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses; to allow for the transfer of certain exemptions by a surviving spouse; to provide for limitations; to provide for effectiveness; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 191—
BY SENATOR MILLER

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:2201(B), 2207(A) and (E), and 2266.1(A)(1) and to repeal R.S. 47:2207 as amended and reenacted by Section 2 of Act No. 411 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to the assessment, payment, and allocation of ad valorem taxes; to provide for ordinances related to the sale or donation of adjudicated property and the adjudication period thereof; to provide for the act of sale or donation of adjudicated property; to provide for the procedure to recognize amounts due under a tax lien certificate; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 238—
BY SENATOR MILLER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:2121, relative to the assessment, payment, and collection of ad valorem taxes; to provide for the collection of delinquent statutory impositions; to provide for tax notice requirements; to provide relative to notice and enforcement requirements for certain tax sales; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably.

SENATE BILL NO. 318—
BY SENATOR REESE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 47:1517(B)(1), (B)(1)(a), and the introductory paragraph of (2) and to repeal R.S. 47:1517(B)(1)(c), (3), and (4), and (C), and 1517.1(B)(4), relative to the tax exemption budget; to provide for the publication of the tax exemption budget; to provide for the contents of the tax exemption budget; to provide relative to the categorization of tax exemptions; to repeal assessment requirements; to repeal certain reporting requirements on tax incentives; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANKLIN J. FOIL
Chair

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
on Second Reading
Reported by Committees

SENATE BILL NO. 23—
BY SENATOR BOUDREAU

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:5.5(E)(2)(j), relative to food service establishments; to provide for an exemption to the definition of food service establishment; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Health and Welfare. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 26—
BY SENATOR MCMATH

AN ACT

To repeal R.S. 40:2116(B)(5) and 2159, relative to opioid treatment programs; to repeal the facility need review requirements for opioid treatment programs; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Health and Welfare. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 29—
BY SENATOR MCMATH

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5713(C), relative to autopsies of children; to require coroners to perform autopsies on certain children; to provide for the review of immunization records; to provide for reporting; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Health and Welfare.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to Original Senate Bill No. 29 by Senator McMath

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "R.S. 13:5713(C)" insert "and to enact R.S. 13:5713(L)"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 6, after "reenacted" insert "and R.S. 13:5713(L) is hereby enacted"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, delete lines 10 and 11, and insert the following: "physician an autopsy in all cases of infants under the age of one year who die unexpectedly without explanation."

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, after line 19, insert the following:

"(6) The inclusion of an immunization record in any report shall not imply cause of death."

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, after line 20, insert the following:

"L.(1) The death investigation report for any child under the age of fifteen who dies unexpectedly without explanation shall include documentation of any immunizations administered to the child within ninety days before the child's death, as available through the state immunization registry."

"(2) If the coroner finds that the cause of death was Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Sudden Unexpected Infant Death, Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome, or Sudden Death in the Young, he shall report the case to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health's Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Sudden Death in the Young Case Registry."

"(3) The inclusion of an immunization record in any report shall not imply cause of death."

On motion of Senator Jackson-Andrews, the committee amendment was adopted. Senator Womack moved for a suspension of the rules the amended bill be read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATE BILL NO. 30—
BY SENATOR MCMATH

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:1223.4(D), relative to telehealth services; to provide for the use of telehealth; to provide for the regulation of telehealth by state agencies and licensing boards; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Health and Welfare.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to Original Senate Bill No. 30 by Senator McMath

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 4, after "boards;" insert "to require synchronous interactions with a patient for certain conditions;"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 14, after "**provider**" insert "**conducts a synchronous interaction with the patient and**"

On motion of Senator Jackson-Andrews, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 32—

BY SENATORS MCMATH, BOUDREAUX, CLOUD, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, OWEN AND PRESSLY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the heading of Part XII-A of Chapter 5-B of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 and to enact R.S. 40:1124.3, relative to perinatal care; to provide for the Perinatal Bereavement Care Initiative; to provide for the duties of the Louisiana Department of Health; to provide for funding; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Health and Welfare.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to Original Senate Bill No. 32 by Senator McMath

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, line 3, after "**hospitals**" delete the remainder of the line and insert "**with a maternity unit or neonatal intensive care unit:**"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, delete line 7 and insert the following:
"(2) A perinatal cooling device that is available to any family that experiences an intrauterine fetal demise, neonatal death, stillbirth, or infant death at the hospital.

(3) Education for staff on use of the device. Any nursing staff using a perinatal cooling device shall either receive training on use of the device or complete a perinatal bereavement certificate program."

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, line 8, change "(3)" to "(4)"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:
"C.(1) The office shall identify each hospital that has a maternity unit or neonatal intensive care unit."

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, line 10, change "C." to "(2)"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 2, line 11, change "**bereavement**" to "**cooling**"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 2, after line 15, add the following:

"E. Beginning February 1, 2027, through February 1, 2030, the Louisiana Department of Health shall submit an annual report to the Senate Health and Welfare Committee and the House Health and Welfare Committee on the progress of the initiative. The report shall include a list of the hospitals that meet the criteria for the initiative, the hospitals that have participated, funding received and utilized for the initiative, the number of perinatal cooling devices distributed, and training completed by the appropriate hospital staff."

Section 2. This Act shall be known and may be cited as "Angel's Law".

On motion of Senator Jackson-Andrews, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 39—

BY SENATOR MIZELL

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3556(F), relative to the licensure of massage therapists; to provide for a provisional license for massage therapist graduates; to require notification to a client; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 39 by Senator Mizell

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, change "amend and reenact" to "enact"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 4, after "client;" insert "to provide for terms and conditions;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 6, change "amended and reenacted" to "enacted"

On motion of Senator Mizell, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 41—

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 43:144, relative to penalties for failure to timely publish minutes; to expand the number of days for publication of minutes; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 45—

BY SENATOR WHEAT

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:2183.1, relative to hospice care; to exempt certain organizations from hospice licensure; to provide for criteria for exempted organizations; to provide for services performed at an exempted organization; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Health and Welfare.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

March 16, 2026

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to Original Senate Bill No. 45 by Senator Wheat

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, line 2, after "time" insert "at any single location owned or operated by the nonprofit organization"

On motion of Senator Jackson-Andrews, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 49—

BY SENATOR SEABAUGH

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:2(12), relative to party primary elections; to remove the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from the party primary elections; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 49 by Senator Seabaugh

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, change "(12)" to "(9)"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 6, change "(12)" to "(9)"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 11, change "(12)" to "(9)"

On motion of Senator Kleinpeter, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 50—

BY SENATOR FESI

AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate the Bayou Dularge Bascule Bridge in Terrebonne Parish as the "Elward T. Brady Memorial Bridge"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 55—

BY SENATOR STINE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), relative to seatbelts; to provide for the proper way to wear a seatbelt; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 69—

BY SENATOR WHEAT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:1951(B)(2)(a), (c), (d), and (g), relative to the South Tangipahoa Parish Port Commission; to provide for the composition of the board of commissioners; to provide for the submission of nominees; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 71—

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

AN ACT

To authorize and provide for the transfer of certain state property; to authorize the transfer of state property in Lafayette Parish; to provide for the property description; to provide for reservation of mineral rights; to provide terms and conditions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Natural Resources.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to Original Senate Bill No. 71 by Senator Boudreaux

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 7, after "The" delete "commissioner of administration" and insert "secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, line 26, after "The" delete "commissioner of administration" and insert "secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 5, line 2, after "between the" delete "commissioner of administration" and insert "secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development"

On motion of Senator Fesi, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 84—

BY SENATORS MYERS, BARROW, BASS, DUPLESSIS AND TALBOT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1028(B)(1) and (E), relative to prostate cancer screening; to provide for insurance coverage for screening of men over the age of forty in accordance with the guidelines from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network; to prohibit out-of-pocket expenses for cancer screening services; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Insurance. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 96—

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to establish the "Fallen Heroes" special prestige license plate; to provide for creation, issuance, design, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the license plate; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 101—

BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 384 in Calcasieu Parish as the "Daniel Edward Didelot Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to Original Senate Bill No. 101 by Senator Abraham

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 3, at the beginning of the line delete "Calcasieu" and insert "Cameron"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 9, after "within" delete "Calcasieu" and insert "Cameron"

On motion of Senator Connick, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 103—

BY SENATOR WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 425 in Wisner, Louisiana, as the "Gladys Edwards Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 148—

BY SENATOR STINE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:103(C)(1)(l), relative to the city of Lake Charles planning commission; to authorize the governing authority of the city of Lake Charles to pay members of the Lake Charles planning commission a per diem; to provide for the rate of per diem paid to commission members and the number of meetings for which per diem shall be paid; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 150—

BY SENATOR BOUDREAU
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:42.1, relative to vital records; to provide for the scanning of documents; to provide for the creation of electronic files; to provide for the issuance of certified copies of documents; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Health and Welfare. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 159—

BY SENATOR WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 17 in Franklin Parish, as the "Deputy Roy Gonzales Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to Original Senate Bill No. 159 by Senator Womack

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 3, delete "Deputy Roy Gonzales" and insert "Sergeant Rogelio "Roy" Gonzalez, Jr."

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 10, delete "Deputy Roy Gonzales" and insert "Sergeant Rogelio "Roy" Gonzalez, Jr."

On motion of Senator Connick, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 160—

BY SENATORS SEABAUGH, ABRAHAM, CARTER, CLOUD, MCMATH,
PRICE AND WHEAT
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 171 in Sabine Parish as "Joe R. Salter Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to Original Senate Bill No. 160 by Senator Seabaugh

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 3, delete "Joe" and insert "Speaker Joe"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 10, delete "Joe" and insert "Speaker Joe"

On motion of Senator Connick, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 163—

BY SENATOR REESE
AN ACT

To repeal Section 2 of Act No. 700 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, relative to the licensure and regulation of virtual currency businesses; to provide relative to the authority, functions, and duties of the office of financial institutions; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 172—

BY SENATOR LUNEAU
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:113(A) and (B), relative to the development of parishes and municipalities; to provide relative to planning commissions; to provide relative to the administrative procedures for approving plats by planning commissions; to provide relative to exceptions for certain municipalities; to provide relative to certain requirements or restrictions for approval of plats; to provide relative to the waiver of a public hearing in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

March 16, 2026

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 174—

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

AN ACT

To authorize and provide for the transfer of certain state property; to authorize the transfer of state property in Caddo Parish; to provide for the property description; to provide for reservation of mineral rights; to provide terms and conditions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Natural Resources. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 182—

BY SENATOR WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER

AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 425 in Franklin Parish as the "Mayor Billy Cobb Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 205—

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:851.19 and 851.22(A), relative to boat registrations; to provide for vessel certificate numbers; to provide for motorboats, houseboats, and sailboats; to provide for approved numbering systems; to provide for documented vessels; to provide for federal documentation and marking of vessels; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Natural Resources. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 213—

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:852.3 and 852.4(A), relative to vessel and motor titling; to provide for titling requirements for certain vessels and outboard motors; to provide for exceptions and limitations; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Natural Resources. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 218—

BY SENATOR TALBOT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:59.4(D)(1), relative to certification programs; to provide for training programs approved by the State Board of Election Supervisors; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 220—

BY SENATOR TALBOT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 43:24(C), relative to the official journal of the state; to provide for a technical correction; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 229—

BY SENATOR BASS

AN ACT

To authorize and provide for the transfer of certain state property; to authorize the transfer of state property in Bossier Parish; to provide for the property description; to provide for reservation of mineral rights; to provide terms and conditions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Natural Resources. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 243—

BY SENATOR KLEINPETER

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:851.29, relative to vessel stops and boardings; to provide for vessel operation and equipment; to provide for safety of persons and property; to provide for law enforcement; to provide for compliance; to provide for authority to stop and board vessels; to provide for probable cause; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Natural Resources.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to Original Senate Bill No. 243 by Senator Kleinpeter

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 5, delete "probable cause" and insert "reasonable suspicion"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, line 1, after "officer" delete "has probable cause to believe" and insert "reasonably suspects"

On motion of Senator Fesi, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 244—

BY SENATORS ALLAIN AND KLEINPETER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 56:256, relative to recreational alligator hunting; to provide for a special season; to provide for taking alligators; to provide for possession; to provide for quotas; to provide for season modifications; to provide for residency; to provide for methods of taking; to provide for harvest hours; to provide for licenses; to provide for tags; to provide for prohibitions; to provide for violations; to provide for Louisiana Wildlife Commission authority; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Natural Resources. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 246—

BY SENATORS LUNEAU AND BARROW

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1260.44(E)(2) and to enact R.S. 22:1260.49 and 2401(4), relative to the use of artificial intelligence by insurers; to provide for definitions; to provide for notice; to provide for utilization review and determination by a human; to provide for appeals; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Insurance.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Insurance to Original Senate Bill No. 246 by Senator Luneau

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 3, after "intelligence" and before "by" insert "and automated decision systems"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 5, after "appeals;" insert "to provide for applicability;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 16, after "intelligence" and before the comma " ," insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, at the beginning of line 3, change "A." to "A.(1)"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:
"(2) "Automated decision system" as used in this Section means any computational process derived from machine learning, statistical modeling, data analytics, or artificial intelligence that issues simplified output, including but not limited to a score, classification, or recommendation, that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decision making and materially impacts a natural person."

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 2, line 11, after "intelligence" and before "for" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 2, line 12, after "intelligence" and before "for" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 2, at the beginning of line 15, after "intelligence" and before "that" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 2, line 20, after "intelligence" and before "used" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 2, line 22, after "intelligence" and before "shall" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 11

On page 2, at the beginning of line 29, change "D.(1)" to "D.(1)(a)"

AMENDMENT NO. 12

On page 3, at the end of line 1, after "intelligence" and before the period "." insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 3, between lines 1 and 2, insert "**(b) Any adverse determination shall be signed by a licensed physician who personally reviewed the medical record and is responsible for the clinical judgment.**"

AMENDMENT NO. 14

On page 3, at the beginning of line 10, after "intelligence" and before "use" insert "or automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 15

On page 3, at the beginning of line 13, after "intelligence" and before "at" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 16

On page 3, delete lines 15 through 17

AMENDMENT NO. 17

On page 3, line 18, change "(e)" to "(d)"

AMENDMENT NO. 18

On page 3, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

"(3)(a) A health insurance issuer shall disclose to the enrollee and the department when an artificial intelligence or automated decision system was used in any part of a coverage determination or utilization review.

(b) The health insurance issuer shall document the extent to which any artificial intelligence or automated decision system influenced the determination."

AMENDMENT NO. 19

On page 3, at the end of line 22, after "intelligence" and before the period "." insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 20

On page 3, between lines 22 and 23, insert "**(2) Any adverse determination in which an artificial intelligence or automated decision system materially contributed to the determination shall be presumed invalid unless the health insurance issuer demonstrates that the determination was independently reached through documented clinical judgment without reliance upon algorithmic output.**"

AMENDMENT NO. 21

On page 3, at the beginning of line 23, change "(2)" to "(3)"

AMENDMENT NO. 22

On page 3, delete line 24 and insert in lieu thereof "**artificial intelligence or automated decision system, the insurer shall not use an artificial intelligence or an automated decision system in any**"

AMENDMENT NO. 23

On page 3, between lines 25 and 26, insert the following:

"F.(1) An entity subject to this Section shall allow the commissioner to inspect and audit the artificial intelligence or automated decision system for compliance with this Section and review policies and procedures for how the artificial intelligence or automated decision system is used in the determination process.

(2) The commissioner may require submission and independent review of any artificial intelligence or automated decision system used in utilization review.

(3) Upon request of the commissioner, a health insurance issuer shall disclose the data sources, training parameters, and validation methods used to develop any artificial intelligence or automated decision system used in coverage determinations.

(4) The health insurance issuer shall pay for any independent review that the commissioner deems necessary."

AMENDMENT NO. 24

On page 4, line 4, after "request," and before "review" insert "to"

AMENDMENT NO. 25

On page 4, line 5, after "intelligence" and before "as" insert "or an automated decision system"

AMENDMENT NO. 26

On page 4, after line 6, insert the following:

"Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on or after January 1, 2027. Any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to January 1, 2027, shall convert to conform to the provisions of this Act on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2028."

On motion of Senator Talbot, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

March 16, 2026

SENATE BILL NO. 248—
BY SENATOR MILLER

AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 18:531.1(A) and 531.1(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 18:531.1(A)(3), relative to polling places; to provide that a polling place for a precinct is not required to be opened under certain circumstances; to provide relative to the powers, duties, and authority of registrars of voters relative to polling places; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 248 by Senator Miller

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 6, delete "to provide for an effective date;"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, delete line 7.

On motion of Senator Kleinpeter, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 253—
BY SENATOR MCMATH

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:23.5, relative to peptides; to provide for the regulation of peptides by licensing boards; to provide requirements for providers; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Health and Welfare.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to Original Senate Bill No. 253 by Senator McMath

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 3, after "providers" insert "and compounding pharmacies"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 8, change "A." to "A.(1)"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 13, change "B." to "(2)"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, after line 14, insert the following:

"B. No professional or occupational licensing board shall prohibit a state-licensed compounding pharmacy from compounding and dispensing peptides, provided that the peptide is not included in the FDA's list of substances prohibited for compounding or the FDA Category 2 list of bulk drug substances. Once a peptide is removed from the FDA Category 2 list, a state-licensed compounding pharmacy may compound such peptide provided the active pharmaceutical ingredient is obtained from an FDA-registered manufacturer and the pharmacy otherwise complies with all applicable federal and state compounding laws and regulations."

On motion of Senator Jackson-Andrews, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 254—
BY SENATOR MIZELL

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 9:3518.5 and 3518.6, relative to debit card surcharges; to prohibit certain excess surcharges; to provide for liability; to provide reporting requirements; to provide for enforcement; to provide for civil penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 254 by Senator Mizell

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, delete "R.S. 9:3518.5 and 3518.6" and insert "Chapter 52 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 51:3081 and 3082"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 3, after "to provide" and before "reporting" insert "for"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, delete lines 7 through 9, and insert the following:

"Section 1. Chapter 52 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 51:3081 and 3082, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 52. DEBIT CARD SURCHARGE
§3081. Debit card surcharge; prohibiting certain excess fees; liability; reporting"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, delete lines 10 through 29, and insert the following:

"§3082. Enforcement; penalties
A.(1) The attorney general may bring a civil action against a retail business that violates the provisions of this Chapter."

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 3, delete lines 1 and 2.

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 3, line 3, change "(4)" to "(2)"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 3, line 6, change "(5)" to "(3)"

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 3, line 10, change "(6)" to "(4)"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 3, line 13, change "D." to "B."

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 3, line 14, change "consumers" to "cardholders"

AMENDMENT NO. 11

On page 3, line 16, change "E." to "C." and change "consumer" to "cardholder" and at the end of the line delete "R.S."

AMENDMENT NO. 12

On page 3, line 17, change "9:3518.5" to "this Chapter"

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 3, line 19, after "include" and before "the" insert "all of"

On motion of Senator Mizell, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 279—
BY SENATOR MORRIS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 6:255(A) and (G) and 1204 and R.S. 12:1-625(A) and to enact R.S. 6:707(E), relative to banks; to provide for certificates of stocks; to provide for uncertificated shares; to provide for terms, conditions, exceptions, and procedures; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 289—
BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 44:4(65) through (67), relative to public records; to provide for exemptions to the public records law for certain university records; to provide for confidentiality of applicants for certain executive-level university positions; to provide for the privacy of university donors; to provide for the confidentiality of research and proprietary information at universities; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 289 by Senator Abraham

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 13, remove "executive level or high impact" and replace with "executive"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 15, remove "deans,"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 16, remove "a "finalist"" and replace with "any finalist"

On motion of Senator Kleinpeter, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 334—
BY SENATOR CATHEY

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:2575(A), relative to enforcement of ordinances by a municipality or parish; to provide relative to blighted or abandoned property; to provide relative to public health, housing, fire codes, building codes, zoning, vegetation, nuisances, environmental, historic district, and licensing and permits ordinances; to provide relative to procedures for administrative adjudication; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 375—
BY SENATOR MIZELL

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1615(A)(4) and to enact R.S. 40:1615(A)(5), relative to fire fighting foam; to provide for Class B fire fighting foam containing fluorinated organic chemicals; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs. The was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 379—
BY SENATOR HENSGENS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 30:3(7), 4(C)(14), (D)(1)(a) and (5), (G), and (I)(2), 5(C)(1), the introductory paragraph of (C)(2), and (6), and (D)(1), 5.1(A)(1) and (B)(1), 6.1(A) and (C), 23(D)(2), 26, 29(A), (I)(4), 73(1), 74(A)(3) and (B), 98.3(B), 101.2(A), 101.5, 135, 149(B), 149.1(A) and (E), 150(B)(4) and (5), (C)(1), (D), (F)(1) and (3), 209(2) and (4)(b) and (e), 209.2(B), 209.3(A) and (E), the introductory paragraph of 548, 917(F), 1110(C)(1)(f) and (g), and R.S. 36:357(A) and 358(B), to enact R.S. 30:84(A)(9) and (10) and (B), and to repeal R.S. 30:4(O)(3), relative to the Department of Energy and Natural Resources as the Department of Conservation and Energy; to provide for technical corrections to the structure and organization of the department; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Reported with amendments by the Committee on Natural Resources.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to Original Senate Bill No. 379 by Senator Hensgens

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 4, change "29(A)," to "29(A) and"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, delete lines 5 and 6 and insert "101.5(A),127(A), 153(A), the introductory paragraph of"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 8, after "and (10)" delete "and (B)"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, line 8, after "30:4(O)(3)," insert "85, and 101.6,"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 1, line 11, after "department;" insert "to provide for powers and duties of the secretary of the Department of Conservation and Energy; to provide for the office of state resources; to provide for leasing authority; to provide for instructions to the Louisiana Law Institute;"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 1, line 15, change "29(A)," to "29(A) and"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 1, at the end of line 15, delete "101.5, 135, 149(B)," and delete line 16

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 1, at the beginning of line 17, delete "209.2(B), 209.3(A) and (E)," and insert "101.5(A), 127(A), 153(A),"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 2, line 1, after "and (10)" delete "and (B)"

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 10, delete lines 22 through 29 and on page 11, delete lines 1 and 2

AMENDMENT NO. 11

On page 11, at the beginning of line 3, change "(~~3~~) (9)" to "\$85(A)(~~3~~) (9)"

AMENDMENT NO. 12

On page 11, at the beginning of line 5, change "(~~4~~) (10)" to "\$85(A)(~~4~~) (10)"

March 16, 2026

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 11, delete line 9 through 11

AMENDMENT NO. 14

On page 12, delete lines 15 through 20

AMENDMENT NO. 15

On page 12, at the beginning of line 21, change "(+) (4)" to "\$101.6(A)(+) (4)"

AMENDMENT NO. 16

On page 12, at the beginning of line 24, change "(2) (5)" to "\$101.6(A)(2) (5)"

AMENDMENT NO. 17

On page 12, at the beginning of line 28, change "(3) (6)" to "\$101.6(A)(3) (6)"

AMENDMENT NO. 18

On page 13, at the beginning of line 1, change "(4) (7)" to "\$101.6(A)(4) (7)"

AMENDMENT NO. 19

On page 13, at the beginning of line 3, change "(5) (8)" to "\$101.6(A)(5) (8)"

AMENDMENT NO. 20

On page 13, at the beginning of line 6, change "(6) (9)" to "\$101.6(A)(6) (9)"

AMENDMENT NO. 21

On page 13, delete lines 8 and 9

AMENDMENT NO. 22

On page 13, at the beginning of line 10, change "(8) (10)" to "\$101.6(A)(8) (10)"

AMENDMENT NO. 23

On page 13, at the beginning of line 11, change "(9) (11)" to "\$101.6(A)(9) (11)"

AMENDMENT NO. 24

On page 13, delete lines 15 through 29 and delete pages 14 through 17

AMENDMENT NO. 25

On page 18, delete lines 1 through 6, and insert:

\$127. Opening bids; minimum royalties; terms of lease; deposit; security

A.(1) Only those bidders who are registered prospective leaseholders with the office of mineral resources, or those who register within two business days after the lease sale at which the bid is opened and prior to the conditional issuance of the lease, shall be allowed to obtain a mineral lease from the state of Louisiana. Any bidder who is not properly registered with the office of mineral resources at the time bids are opened, but whose bid is otherwise acceptable, shall have until the end of the second business day following the date on which the bid was conditionally accepted by the State Mineral and Energy Board to become properly registered with the office of mineral resources. If the bidder remains unregistered by the close of business of the second business day following the day the mineral lease sale at which the bid was conditionally accepted, the conditionally accepted bid shall be deemed rejected. The provisions of this Subsection shall also apply in cases where there is no more than one bid made by unregistered prospective leaseholders. Bids may be for the whole or any particularly described portion of land advertised. At the time and place mentioned in the advertisement for the consideration of bids, they shall be publicly opened. Bids received by the mineral board shall be opened at any state-owned buildings situated in the city in which the capitol is located. The mineral board has authority to accept the bid most advantageous to the state and may lease upon whatever terms it considers proper. However, the minimum royalties to be stipulated in any mineral

lease, other than a mineral lease executed by or on behalf of a school board, shall be:

- (+) (a) One-eighth of all oil and gas produced and saved.
(2) (b) One-eighth of the value per long ton of sulphur produced and saved which shall yield not less than two dollars per long ton.
(3) (c) One-eighth of the value per ton for all potash produced and saved, which shall yield not less than ten cents per ton.
(4) (d) Five percent of all lignite produced and saved.
(5) (e) Five percent of the value per ton on a dry salt basis for all salt produced and saved, which shall yield not less than ten cents per ton.

(6) (f) One-eighth of all other minerals produced and saved.
(2) Notwithstanding provisions of Paragraph 1 of this Subsection to the contrary, State Mineral and Energy Board may authorize minimum royalties of less than one-eighth but greater than one-sixteenth upon a finding that market conditions, commodity prices, or other economic factors warrant royalty reduction.

\$153. Agencies may lease or administer through State Mineral and Energy Board

A. Any agency may by resolution direct the State Mineral and Energy Board to lease or otherwise contract for the exploration, development, or use of its land for the development and production of minerals, oil, gas, or alternative energy sources and for the purposes set forth in R.S. 30:148.2. The bonus money, if any, received pursuant to any such contract shall be transmitted by the State Mineral and Energy Board to the agency. After the execution of the original contract, all rights and authority in connection therewith shall be vested in the agency to the same extent as if the agency had itself administered and executed the contract."

AMENDMENT NO. 26

On page 20, line 29, after "30:4(O)(3)" change "is" to ", 85 and 101.6 are"

AMENDMENT NO. 27

On page 21, after line 6, insert "Section 5. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to change all references to the "office of mineral resources" to "office of state resources" throughout the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 except in the provisions of R.S. 30:124.1."

On motion of Senator Fesi, the committee amendment was adopted. The amended bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 380— BY SENATOR CARTER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:9091.30, relative to Orleans Parish; to create the Real Timbers Crime Prevention and Improvement District; to provide relative to the boundaries, purpose, governance, authority, powers, duties, and functions of the district; to provide for district funding; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 385— BY SENATOR HARRIS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact Section 1 of Act No. 130 of the 1896 Regular Session of the Legislature, as amended by Act No. 395 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Legislature, Act No. 257 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature, and Act No. 613 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, and Section 1 through 8 of Act No. 569 of the 1989 Regular Session of the Legislature, as amended by Act No. 13 of the 1998 First Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, Act No. 395 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Legislature, and Act No. 613 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature relative to the New Orleans City Park

Police; to provide for the authority, duties, commissioning, and training of the New Orleans City Park Police; to provide for the administration of the New Orleans City Park Police; to provide for approval of the board of commissioners of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association; to provide for board membership; to provide for obligations of the board; to provide for matters related to insurance for City Park; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

SENATE BILL NO. 397—
BY SENATOR REESE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 18:586(C), relative to vacancies; to provide for vacancies when an elected official has retired, resigned, or been removed from office; to prohibit an official who has retired, resigned, or been removed from office from being appointed to or qualifying for election to the same office in which the official resigned, retired, or was removed; to provide for certain exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

Reported favorably by the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs. The bill was read by title, ordered engrossed and passed to a third reading.

Introduction of Senate Resolutions

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26—
BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To commend James C. Walsh on being named the 2026 Hibernian of the Year in Louisiana.

The resolution was read by title and placed on the Calendar for a second reading.

Privileged Report of the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs

ENROLLMENTS

Senator Kleinpeter, Chairman on behalf of the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, submitted the following report:

March 12, 2026

To the President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed by your Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to submit the following report:

The following Senate Resolutions have been properly enrolled:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Brogan Murphy Cormier on being selected the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at French Settlement High School in Livingston Parish.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Lana Grace Overton on being selected as the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at Denham Springs High School in Livingston Parish.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Kaidyn McLean on being selected as the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at Springfield High School in Livingston Parish.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6—
BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Collin Phillip Sprouse on being selected the 2025-2026 "Student of the Year" at Walker High School in Livingston Parish.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8—
BY SENATOR REESE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of George Douglas Brandon, DVM.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Barbara Vastine Hughes, and to recognize her lifetime of service, faith, and dedication to her family and community.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10—
BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of David Arnold Trusty and to honor his life and legacy.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 16—
BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To designate Wednesday, March 11, 2026, as Funeral Directors Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, to recognize the National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day, and to express sincere appreciation for the dedicated service provided by funeral directors and morticians throughout the state of Louisiana.

Respectfully submitted,
CALEB SETH KLEINPETER
Chairman

The foregoing Senate Concurrent Resolutions were signed by the President of the Senate.

Message from the House

SIGNED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

March 16, 2026

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has signed the following House Concurrent Resolutions:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—
BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Drew Brees for being elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

March 16, 2026

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9—
BY REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM, AMEDEE, AND HORTON AND
SENATORS BASS, EDMONDS, FOIL, HENRY, HODGES, LUNEAU,
MIGUEZ, MILLER, MORRIS, MYERS, REESE, SEABAUGH, AND
WOMACK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
death of Charles James "Charlie" Kirk, co-founder of Turning
Point USA.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12—
BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
To commend the American Shore and Beach Preservation
Association on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary.

and asked that the President of the Senate affix his signature to the
same.

Respectfully submitted,
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT
Clerk of the House of Representatives

The House Concurrent Resolutions contained herein were signed
by the President of the Senate.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mr. President	Foil	Myers
Abraham	Harris	Owen
Allain	Hodges	Pressly
Barrow	Jackson-Andrews	Price
Bass	Jenkins	Reese
Boudreaux	Kleinpeter	Seabaugh
Carter	Lambert	Selders
Cathey	Luneau	Talbot
Connick	Miguez	Wheat
Duplessis	Miller	Womack
Edmonds	Mizell	
Fesi	Morris	
Total - 34		

ABSENT

Cloud	McMath
Hensgens	Stine
Total - 4	

Leaves of Absence

The following leaves of absence were asked for and granted:

Cloud	1 Day	Hensgens	1 Day
McMath	1 Day	Stine	1 Day

Announcements

The following committee meetings for March 17, 2026, were
announced:

Agriculture	10:00 A.M.	Room C
Health and Welfare	At Adj	Hainkel Room
Judiciary A	10:00 A.M.	Hainkel Room
Judiciary B	10:00 A.M.	Room E
Judiciary C	9:00 A.M.	Room F

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Talbot, at 5:15 o'clock P.M. the Senate
adjourned until Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.

The President of the Senate declared the Senate adjourned.

YOLANDA J. DIXON

Secretary of the Senate
FRANCINE K. OGNIBENE
Journal Clerk