LEGISLATIVE EXPENSES: Makes appropriations for the expenses of the legislature for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. (Item #3)

DIGEST

Provides for the expenses of the legislature and legislative service agencies. Appropriates $74,093,881 from the state general fund for FY 2020-2021 including the following:

- House of Representatives $ 28,998,300
- Senate $ 21,764,498
- Legislative Auditor $ 10,483,708
- Legislative Fiscal Office $ 3,158,849
- Louisiana State Law Institute $ 1,131,401
- Legislative Budgetary Control Council $ 8,557,200
- Total state general fund $ 74,093,956

Provides for the allocation of funds for salaries and allowances of members, officers, and staff of the House and Senate. Provides the balance on July 2, 2020, of the fund created by Act 513, §13 of 2008 RS is appropriated to the Legislative Budgetary Control Council.

Appropriates $350,000 from the state general fund to establish the Legislative Auditor Ancillary Enterprise Fund as an agency working capital fund; appropriates $23,525,043 from the fund, which is authorized to be used for expenses of the auditor's office.

Retains provisions of existing law allowing legislative assistants who were employed on or before Dec. 1, 2007, to retain the salary they were earning on Dec. 1, 2007.

Requires appropriations from State General Fund (Direct) be reduced by $12,851,010 pursuant to a plan adopted by the Legislative Budgetary Control Council.

Appropriates $3,000,000 in federal funds to the Legislative Budgetary Control Council for COVID-19 related expenses.

Appropriates additional funding to the legislative auditor for work performed on programs established pursuant to the Act that originated as SB 189 of the 2020 Regular Session. Authorizes $2,500,000 in interagency transfers from the treasurer to the legislative auditor and $271,501 from the Coronavirus Local Recovery Allocation Fund for such work.

Appropriates $75,000 in funding for the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to fund the Streamlining Government Commission.

Provides that no legislative employee shall be eligible for or granted a salary increase during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Effective July 1, 2020.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill:

1. Add $2,771,501 in funding for the legislative auditor for work performed pursuant to the Act that originated as SB 189 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature.
Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Provides that no legislative employee shall be eligible for or granted a salary increase during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

2. Adds $75,000 in funding for the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to fund the Streamlining Government Commission.