
DIGEST

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HB 72 Reengrossed

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Stefanski

Abstract: Allocates \$7.5M of La. Main Street Recovery Program (Main Street Program) funds for bars.

Present law (R.S. 39:100.44) establishes the Main Street Program. Further establishes the La. Main Street Recovery Fund (Fund) to finance the grants awarded by the Main Street Program. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires a total of \$7.5M of monies in the Fund to be awarded to bars that filed an application with the Main Street Program on or before September 29, 2020. Proposed law defines "bar" for the purposes of proposed law as a for-profit corporation, a limited liability company, a partnership, or a sole proprietorship that meets certain criteria, including being domiciled in La. as of March 16, 2020; possessing certain alcohol permits as of March 16, 2020, and meeting certain other conditions in present law. Further provides that any bar that filed an application with the Main Street Program on or before Sept. 29, 2020, and was disqualified because of certain present law provisions shall be entitled to have its application reviewed for an award pursuant to the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law further provides that any unobligated monies in the Fund on Nov. 15, 2020, shall be available for awards to eligible businesses that are not bars.

Further provides that the treasurer may continue to process applications and award grants for pending non-bar applications received as of the effective date of proposed law but may not award any grants to businesses that are not bars, as defined in proposed law, if such award will impinge upon any remaining amount allocated by proposed law for bars.

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

(Amends R.S. 39:100.44(J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Change the date by which a qualifying bar must have been in possession of current permits awarded by the commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control from March 1,

2020, to March 16, 2020.

2. Provides that any bar meeting the qualifications of proposed law that had filed an application in connection with the Main Street Recovery Program and been disqualified may have its application reviewed for an award pursuant to proposed law.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Lower the amount of funds allocated to bars from \$25M to \$7.5M.
2. Delete provisions capping the amount an award may be reduced due to receipt of federal relief or insurance proceeds.
3. Add provision requiring bar monies that remain unobligated on Nov. 15, 2020, to be used for awards to eligible businesses that are not bars.
4. Limit provisions of proposed law to bars that had filed an application with the Main Street Recovery Program on or before September 29, 2020.
5. Provide criteria for qualifying as a "bar" for the purposes of proposed law.
6. Authorize any establishment that filed an application with the Main Street Recovery Program on or before Sept. 20, 2020, and was disqualified pursuant to present law (R.S. 39:100.42(7)(a)) to have its application reviewed for an award pursuant to proposed law.