

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 410 (HB 642)

2021 Regular Session

Schexnayder

New law creates the Louisiana Rescue Plan Fund and directs the treasurer to deposit any federal monies allocated to La. pursuant to the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 into the fund.

New law creates the Louisiana Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and directs the treasurer to deposit any federal monies allocated to La. pursuant to the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 into the fund.

New law authorizes the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) to appropriate monies from any of the funds created in proposed law and to transfer monies between funds created in proposed law by approving a BA-7.

New law creates the following funds and directs the treasurer to deposit the following amounts from the Louisiana Rescue Plan Fund into the funds:

- (1) Water Sector Fund - \$300 million
- (2) Louisiana Main Street Recovery Rescue Plan Fund - \$14.5 million
  - Louisiana Loggers Relief Fund - \$10 million
  - Louisiana Save Our Screens Fund - \$4.5 million
- (3) Louisiana Small Business and Nonprofit Assistance Fund - \$10 million
- (4) Louisiana Port Relief Fund - \$50 million
- (5) Louisiana Tourism Revival Fund - \$77.5 million
  - Louisiana Tourism Revival Program - \$60 million
  - Dept. of Culture, Recreation, & Tourism - \$17.5 million
- (6) Southwest Louisiana Hurricane Recovery Fund - \$30 million
- (7) Capital Outlay Relief Fund - \$35 million

New law directs the treasurer to deposit the following amounts from the Louisiana Rescue Plan Fund into the following existing funds:

- (1) \$15 million to the Legislative Capitol Technology Enhancement Fund
- (2) \$563 million to the Construction Subfund of the Transportation Trust Fund
- (3) \$10 million to the Major Events Fund

New law directs the treasurer to deposit \$5 million from the Louisiana Rescue Plan Fund into the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund created in Act 109 of the 2021 R.S.

New law directs the treasurer to deposit \$90 million from the Louisiana Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund into the Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities (GUMBO) Fund.

### **Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities (GUMBO) Fund**

New law creates the GUMBO Fund to provide grants to help fund broadband access in rural and disadvantaged areas pursuant to the provisions of the Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities program as provided in Act 477 of the 2021 R.S.

### **Water Sector Program**

New law creates the Water Sector Program to provide grants to community water and sewer systems and projects necessitated by storm water. Requires the division of administration,

the office of facility planning and control, and the office of community development to administer the program.

New law establishes the Water Sector Commission as a ten member legislative commission that will review and approve applications submitted pursuant to the program and make recommendations to JLCB for approval of funding.

New law establishes a working panel comprised of the office of public health, Dept. of Environmental Quality, office of community development, and the office of facility planning and control to review and rate applications from local governments and water and sewer systems and make recommendations to the commission for funding projects.

New law requires projects included in the Act that originated as HB 2 of the 2021 R.S. to receive priority for funding and exempts those entities from submitting an additional application to be considered for a grant.

### **Louisiana Loggers Relief Program**

New law creates the Louisiana Loggers Relief Program to provide grants to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses who suffered revenue loss due to COVID-19.

New law establishes the program as a component of the Louisiana Main Street Recovery Program and outlines criteria for program eligibility.

New law limits the grant amount to \$25,000 per eligible business.

### **Louisiana Save Our Screens Program**

New law creates the Louisiana Save Our Screens Program to provide grants to movie theaters in La. who were forced to close or reduce capacity due to COVID-19.

New law establishes the program as a component of the Louisiana Main Street Recovery Program and outlines criteria for program eligibility.

New law limits the grant amount to \$10,000 per movie screen located in La.

### **Louisiana Small Business and Nonprofit Assistance Program**

New law creates the Louisiana Small Business and Nonprofit Assistance Program to provide grants to small businesses to provide workforce development activities and to nonprofit organizations in La to assist individuals impacted by COVID-19.

New law requires the Dept. of Revenue to administer the program and outlines criteria for program eligibility.

New law limits the grant amount to \$25,000 per eligible nonprofits.

### **Louisiana Port Relief Program**

New law creates the Louisiana Port Relief Program to provide grants to La. port authorities that suffered revenue loss or incurred expenses due to COVID-19 or port security measures.

New law outlines criteria for program eligibility. Requires the division of administration to administer the program.

New law requires up to \$5 million of monies for the Port Relief Program to be used for reimbursement for maritime port security expenses.

### **Louisiana Tourism Revival Program**

New law creates the Louisiana Tourism Revival Program to provide grants to local and regional tourist commissions for marketing and promoting La. as a tourism destination for in-state and out-of-state travel activity.

New law requires the division to administer the program and outlines criteria for program eligibility.

New law requires JLCB approval of a plan for administration of the program prior to the award of any grants.

New law authorizes the division of administration to utilize up to \$250,000 collectively from the Louisiana Port Relief Fund and Louisiana Tourism Revival Fund for administrative expenses associated with the respective programs.

The creation of the GUMBO Fund and transfer of monies into the fund are effective August 1, 2021. The remaining provisions of the bill are effective upon signature of the governor (June 17, 2021).

(Adds R.S. 39:100.44.1, 100.44.2, and 100.51-100.59.2)