

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 643

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

APPROPRIATIONS/JUDGMENT: Appropriates funds for payment of the consent judgment against the state in the suit entitled DeRoche v DOTD et al.

1 AN ACT

2 Relative to the appropriation of monies out of the state general fund to be used to pay the
3 consent judgment captioned "Rachelle Elizabeth Deroche versus State of Louisiana
4 through its Department of Transportation & Development and Jordan Gaten"
5 between the state of Louisiana, through the Department of Transportation and
6 Development and its employee Jordan Gaten, and Rachelle Elizabeth Deroche; to
7 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. The sum of Eighteen Thousand and No/100 (\$18,000) Dollars is hereby
10 payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for payment of the
11 consent judgment captioned "Rachelle Elizabeth Deroche versus State of Louisiana through
12 its Department of Transportation & Development and Jordan Gaten", signed on March 25,
13 2025, between the state of Louisiana, through the Department of Transportation and
14 Development and its employee Jordan Gaten, and Rachelle Elizabeth Deroche, bearing
15 Number 2021-0002473, Division E, on the docket of the Twenty-First Judicial District,
16 parish of Tangipahoa, state of Louisiana.

17 Section 2. The judgment may only be paid from this appropriation if it is final and
18 shall be paid as to principal, interest, court costs, and expert witness fees as awarded in the
19 judgment. If the provisions of the judgment conflict with the provisions of this Act, the
20 provisions of the judgment shall be controlling. Any other provision of this Act not in
21 conflict with the provisions of the judgment shall control. Payment shall be made only after

1 presentation to the state treasurer of documentation required by the state treasurer. Further,
2 the judgment shall be deemed to have been paid on the effective date of this Act, and interest
3 shall cease to run as of that date.

4 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
8 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 643 Original	2025 Regular Session	Mike Johnson
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Appropriates \$18,000 out of the State General Fund (Direct) for FY 2024-2025 for payment of the consent judgment against the state in the suit entitled Deroche v. State of La. through its Dept. of Transportation and Development et al., bearing No. 2021-0002473, Division E, on the docket of the 21st Judicial District, parish of Tangipahoa.

Proposed law provides relative to payment. Provides relative to conflicts between the judgment and proposed law. Prohibits accrual of interest on the judgment as of the effective date of proposed law.

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