

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 346

BY REPRESENTATIVE DESHOTEL

FUNDS/FUNDING: Establishes the Local Infrastructure Fund

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 39:100.254, relative to special treasury funds; to establish the Local
3 Infrastructure Fund; to provide for the transfer, deposit, and use, as specified, of
4 monies in the Local Infrastructure Fund; to provide an effective date; and to provide
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 39:100.254 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §100.254. Local Infrastructure Fund

9 A. There is hereby established in the state treasury, as a special fund, the
10 Local Infrastructure Fund, hereafter referred to in this Section as the "fund".

11 B. After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as
12 provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer
13 shall deposit into the fund any monies transferred or appropriated by the legislature.
14 The treasurer shall also deposit into the fund any grants, donations, gifts, or other
15 monies which may become available.

16 C. Monies in the fund shall be invested in the same manner as monies in the
17 state general fund. Interest earned on investment of monies in the fund shall be
18 credited to the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end
19 of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

1 D. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the division of administration,
2 office of community development, for the reimbursement of qualifying expenses of
3 a political subdivision incurred in the repair or mitigation of damage caused by the
4 expansion of broadband services.

5 E. The division of administration, office of community development, shall
6 develop guidelines for the administration of monies in the fund and shall submit such
7 guidelines for review and approval by the Water Sector Commission prior to
8 implementation. The office of community development shall submit a quarterly
9 report to the Water Sector Commission on the monies expended from the fund.

10 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
11 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
12 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
13 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
14 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 346 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Deshotel

Abstract: Establishes the Local Infrastructure Fund and requires monies in the fund to be used for the reimbursement of qualifying expenses incurred by a political subdivision in connection with the expansion of broadband services.

Proposed law establishes the Local Infrastructure Fund as a special fund in the state treasury. Requires the treasurer to deposit any monies transferred or appropriated by the legislature as well as donations, gifts, grants, appropriations, or other revenues.

Proposed law requires monies in the fund to be invested in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on investment of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

Proposed law requires monies in the fund to be used for the reimbursement of qualifying expenses of a political subdivision incurred in the repair or mitigation of damages caused by the expansion of broadband services. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the division of administration, office of community development.

Proposed law requires the division of administration, office of community development, to develop guidelines for the administration of monies in the fund. The Water Sector

Commission shall review and approve the guidelines prior to implementation. Requires the office of community development to submit a quarterly report to the Water Sector Commission on the monies expended from the fund.

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

(Adds R.S. 39:100.254)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Change the use of monies in the fund from community water and sewer projects and local road projects to community water and sewer projects only.
2. Add a \$10M limit per fiscal year for community water and sewer projects.
3. Establish the Local Infrastructure Fund and provide for its uses should House Bill No. 366 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature be adopted at a statewide election and become effective. Provide for this version of the fund to supersede any other version of the fund enacted into law.
4. Provide that proposed law is applicable to taxable periods on or after Jan. 1, 2025.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove the dedicating sales and use taxes collected on telecommunication services into the fund.
2. Require monies in the fund to be appropriated to the division of administration, office of community development to be used for reimbursement of qualifying expenses of a political subdivision incurred in the repair or mitigation of damages caused by the expansion of broadband services.
3. Require the office of community development to develop guidelines for the administration of monies in the fund. Require the Water Commission to approve the guidelines.
4. Require the office of community development to provide a quarterly report to the Water Sector Commission on the monies expended from the fund.