

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 184

BY SENATOR CATHEY

COURTS. Urges the Louisiana Supreme Court to take appropriate action to allow full-time legislative staff attorneys to receive eight hours of continuing education credits each year.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Supreme Court to take appropriate action to allow full-  
3 time legislative staff attorneys who are licensed to practice in the state to receive  
4 eight hours of continuing education credit each year for legislative service.

5 WHEREAS, in the Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Supreme Court  
6 adopted RULE XXX of PART H of the RULES FOR CONTINUING LEGAL  
7 EDUCATION; and

8 WHEREAS, Rule 2 of Rule XXX of Part H states "[T]hese Rules shall apply to every  
9 attorney licensed to practice law...", and lists certain listed exceptions such as age, residence  
10 outside the state and not engaged in the practice of law, or members of Congress; and

11 WHEREAS, Rule 3 of Rule XXX of Part H requires every attorney licensed to  
12 practice law is to attend or complete an approved substitute for attendance, a minimum of  
13 twelve and one-half hours (12.5) hours of approved continuing legal education (CLE) each  
14 calendar year with not less than one (1) of such hours shall concern legal ethics, and not less  
15 than one (1) of such hours shall concern professionalism; and

16 WHEREAS, Regulation 3.15 of Rule 3 of Rule XXX of Part H of the Rules of the  
17 Supreme Court of Louisiana exempts the governor from these requirements, it further grants  
18 eight hours of CLE credit each year to each member of the Louisiana Legislature; to the

1 person serving as secretary of the Senate; and to the person serving as clerk of the House of  
2 Representatives of the Louisiana Legislature; and

3 WHEREAS, legislators attend the regular sessions of the legislature as well as  
4 extraordinary sessions which may be convened at other times by the governor or by the  
5 presiding officers of both houses; and

6 WHEREAS, full-time legislative staff attorneys are an integral part of the legislative  
7 process performing numerous activities and duties, conducting year-round legal research and  
8 bill drafting involving multiple subject areas of the law in proposed legislation, facilitating  
9 meetings to educate and brief legislators on the legislative process and the issues and legal  
10 knowledge necessary to adequately debate pending legislation; and

11 WHEREAS, staff attorneys work with each legislator as they focus on individual  
12 bills involving different subject matter areas to draft bills, amendments, and provide advice  
13 as to the proper legislative procedure; and

14 WHEREAS, the main goal of a legislative staff attorney is to ensure that legislation  
15 is clear, concise, legally correct, and provides for good governance; and

16 WHEREAS, the number of full-time legislative attorneys for both the House and  
17 Senate is less than one hundred compared to the nearly nineteen thousand licensed attorneys  
18 in the state; and

19 WHEREAS, considering that legislative staff attorneys conduct research and draft  
20 legislation that ultimately becomes law in our state, these attorneys should receive CLE  
21 credit for their knowledge and work in the legislative process.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
23 does hereby urge and request the Supreme Court of Louisiana to take appropriate action to  
24 allow full-time legislative staff attorneys who are licensed to practice law in this state to  
25 receive eight hours of CLE credit each year similar to that provided in Regulation 3.15 of  
26 Rule XXX of Part H of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana for legislators and the  
27 legislative chief clerical officers.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

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	DIGEST	
SR 184 Original	2025 Regular Session	Cathey

Requests the Louisiana Supreme Court to allow full-time legislative staff attorneys licensed to practice in the state to receive eight hours of CLE credit for each year working at the legislature.