

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 419 (SB 100)

2025 Regular Session

Miguez

New law creates the "State Services and Benefits Legal Status and Accountability Act".

New law defines terms, including "state services and benefits" as all services and benefits provided by the La. Dept. of Health, state Dept. of Education, office of motor vehicles, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, Dept. of Children and Family Services, Dept. of Revenue, and Louisiana higher education institutions, including but not limited to healthcare, education, licenses, emergency assistance, and tax benefits.

New law requires each agency defined in new law to determine the eligibility of individuals receiving state services and benefits from the agency, including determining which individuals attempting to receive state services and benefits are "illegal aliens" or "unaccompanied alien children".

New law requires the state agencies to determine and collect information as to what services or benefits have been afforded to "illegal aliens" or "unaccompanied alien children" and calculate the total dollar amount of services provided to individuals identified as "illegal aliens" or "unaccompanied alien children".

New law requires each agency to submit an annual report to the governor, the attorney general, and the legislature.

New law requires the annual report be submitted one week before the convening of each annual legislative session and include all of the following:

- (1) The total number of individuals receiving state services categorized by legal status.
- (2) The total dollar amount of state services or benefits provided to all individuals identified as "illegal aliens" and "unaccompanied alien children".
- (3) A breakdown of services provided, including healthcare, education, motor vehicle services, emergency preparedness, tax benefits, and other relevant services and/or benefits.
- (4) A summary of any actions taken to ensure compliance with federal immigration law in meeting its obligations under new law.

New law requires each agency to post the full report on publicly accessible websites.

New law requires every state agency, board, and commission to adhere to and comply with federal immigration law and all other laws applicable to confidentiality and privacy of the information gathered, compiled, reported, and published.

New law requires each agency to implement a standardized process for verifying the legal status of individuals seeking state services, which may include but is not limited to any of the following:

- (1) Requesting proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful presence in the U.S., such as a U.S. passport, permanent resident card, or other proof of lawful presence in the U.S. issued by the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security or U.S. Dept. of State.
- (2) Coordinating with the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security or other federal agencies, including but not limited to utilizing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) online service administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, to verify the legal status of individuals.

New law requires the agencies to make reasonable efforts to ensure that any state service or benefit is provided only to individuals who meet the legal criteria for eligibility in accordance with federal and state laws.

New law authorizes the agency's funding may be withheld if any agency fails to comply with the provisions of new law.

Implementation of new law is subject to appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

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

(Adds R.S. 49:1511-1518)