

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 374 (HB 526)

2025 Regular Session

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Prior law provided that the printing of advertisements, public notices, proclamations, and all public notices and advertising to be done by the legislature, or the executive or other departments and institutions of the state government, was to be published in a daily newspaper that was designated as the "Official Journal of the State". Provided for the cost of publication in such newspaper and for contracts and bids relative to printing in such newspaper. New law repeals all prior law relative to this newspaper and instead provides that the state's official journal shall be a website established and maintained by the commissioner of administration and known as the "Official Journal of the State".

Present constitution (Art. X, §29) provides that no proposal to effect any change in existing laws or constitutional provisions relating to any retirement system for public employees shall be introduced in the legislature unless notice of intention to introduce the proposal has been published, without cost to the state, in the official state journal on two separate days.

New law provides that for purposes of present constitution, the commissioner of administration shall promulgate rules and fees to provide for the publication of retirement notices on the Official Journal of the State, as provided in new law, by any person, without cost to the state.

New law further provides that except for any public notice required by present constitution, the legislature may publish any advertisements, public notices, or proclamations on the legislature's website.

Existing law requires the commissioner of administration to establish and maintain a website containing specific information that certain boards, commissions, and like entities (and committees, subcommittees, and panels thereof) are required to submit for posting on the website, such as meeting notices and minutes; contact information; employee information; laws pertaining to its creation, membership, and powers; and financial and budget information. New law makes the following changes:

- (1) Applies all existing law provisions pertaining to this website to the new law website serving as the state's official journal.
- (2) Changes application of existing law to include each board, commission, and like entity created by law or executive order that is made a part of the executive branch of state government by law, or that is placed in an executive branch department or in the office of the governor or lieutenant governor by law or executive order, or that exercises any authority or performs any function of the executive branch of state government and committees, subcommittees, and panels thereof.
- (3) Adds audio and video recordings of meetings required to be made available pursuant to existing law to the list of information required to be submitted and posted on the website.

Existing law requires the commissioner of administration to send notice to the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, and the legislative oversight committees if a board fails to submit required information to the commissioner. Prior law required each oversight committee to evaluate such a board within 60 days of receiving such a notice from the commissioner and to submit a report to the legislature no later than 30 days prior to the beginning of a regular session.

New law makes the evaluation conducted by and report from the oversight committees permissive, rather than mandatory.

New law directs the La. State Law Institute to redesignate certain existing law provisions that are being amended and reenacted by new law and to make conforming revisions throughout existing law and new law.

Effective July 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 43:81 and R.S. 49:1301-1308; Repeals R.S. 42:19(A)(2)(c) and R.S. 43:81.1-90)