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## DIGEST

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HB 415 Original

2026 Regular Session

Dewitt

**Abstract:** Requires mayors to complete additional training and continuing education annually.

Present law authorizes mayors and members of the governing authorities of municipalities with a population of 15,000 persons or less to participate in workshops and other training courses offered by associations or groups that provide training to local government officials.

Present law authorizes the associations or groups to work jointly to provide workshops, training courses, and other resources to the elected officials. Additionally authorizes the associations or groups to offer incentives such as continuing education credits or certificates for specialization.

Proposed law requires all mayors to complete not less than 16 hours of additional training and continuing education annually. Provides that all mayors shall receive credit towards proposed law requirement through training already required by present law.

Proposed law requires the additional training and continuing education courses to be established within the following categories of municipal governance:

- (1) The Lawrason Act and municipal authority.
- (2) The roles and responsibilities of mayors and municipal councils.
- (3) Public budgeting, finance, audits, and procurement laws.
- (4) Ethics and conflicts of interest.
- (5) Human resources, personnel management, and civil service.
- (6) Open Meetings Law and Public Records Law.
- (7) Public safety, emergency preparedness, and police and fire operations.
- (8) Utility operations and infrastructure management.
- (9) Planning, zoning, annexation, and land use.
- (10) Economic development and community engagement.

- (11) Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure.
- (12) Municipal best practices and compliance.
- (13) Tax codes, revenue authority, and financial administration.

Proposed law requires the La. Municipal Assoc. to ensure that each mayor is notified of the training required by proposed law. Provides that the La. Municipal Assoc. shall be responsible for maintaining records of compliance. Provides that each mayor's record of compliance shall be a public record and available in accordance with present law (Public Records Law).

Proposed law applies to all mayors elected on or after January 1, 2027.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 33:1420.31)