
DIGEST

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HB 553 Original

2026 Regular Session

Carlson

Abstract: Increases the membership of the assessors' certification committee from five to 11 members and expands courses eligible to meet educational requirements for certification and recertification of assessors.

Present law establishes the membership of the assessors' certification committee, totaling five members, as follows:

- (1) The chairman of the education committee of the La. Assessors' Association, who serves as chairman of the certification committee.
- (2) One member appointed by the La. Tax Commission.
- (3) Two certified La. assessors appointed by the president of the La. Assessors Association.
- (4) One deputy assessor appointed by the president of the La. Assessors Association.

Proposed law increases the membership of the assessors' certification committee from 5 members to 11 members by adding an additional member appointed by the La. Tax Commission and increasing the number of assessors and deputy assessors appointed by the president of the La. Assessors Association from a total of three to eight. Further provides that the president of the La. Assessors Association must appoint at least one member from each of the eight Board of Director districts established by the La. Assessors Association.

Present law requires an assessor to receive a passing grade on the examination for education courses, including the Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal and the Income Approach to Valuation or equivalent courses offered by the Appraisal Institute in order to be a certified assessor.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the educational course an assessor must pass in order to be certified from the Income Approach to Valuation to Assessment Administration.

Present law requires an assessor to obtain recertification by completing at least 59 hours of continuing education courses offered by the International Association of Assessing Officers or the Appraisal Institute and at least one course, 30 hours minimum, on appraisal of property which requires the passage of a written exam. Alternatively, if the assessor does not want to achieve recertification by passing a written exam, the assessor may attend at least 74 hours of continuing education courses.

Proposed law retains present law in terms of the hours of continuing education courses needed to attain recertification but adds the Workshop 191 National USPAP Update course and gives assessors an option to attend a one-day or two-day USPAP course in order to attain recertification.

Effective Jan. 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1))