
HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to Original House Bill No. 981 by Representative Villio

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Change lead author from Representative Villio to Representative McMakin

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 2, after "R.S." and before "relative" delete "40:1669(J)," and insert "40:1669,"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, delete line 3 in its entirety and insert the following:

"Incentive Program; to establish the Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Subfund of the Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Fund; to provide for the transfer, deposit, and use, as specified, of monies in the Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Subfund; to provide for applicability; to provide for the payment of an incentive stipend; to provide for duties of the state treasurer; to provide an

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, line 6, after "R.S." and before "is hereby" delete "40:1669(J)" and insert "40:1669"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 1, at the end of line 7, after "Program" insert a semicolon ";" and insert "Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Program"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 1, delete lines 8 through 11 in their entirety and insert the following:

"A.(1) There is hereby ~~created~~ established in the state treasury, as a special fund, the Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Fund, ~~hereinafter~~ hereafter referred to in this Chapter as the "fund". Monies in the fund shall be used solely for payments made in accordance with the Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Program as provided in this Section.

(2) The Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Subfund is hereby established in the state treasury as a subfund in the Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Fund, hereafter referred to in this Section as the "subfund". Monies in the subfund shall be used solely for payments made pursuant to the provisions of Subsection C of this Section.

(3) After allocation of monies to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section (9)(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall deposit into the fund or subfund monies transferred, appropriated, or dedicated to the fund or subfund, respectively.

~~B.~~(4) Monies in the fund and subfund shall be invested in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on investment of monies in the fund and subfund shall be credited to the fund and subfund, respectively. Until the termination of the ~~program~~ programs, unexpended and unencumbered monies in the

1 fund and subfund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and subfund,
 2 respectively.

3 E.B. The Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Program, hereinafter
 4 hereafter referred to in this ~~Chapter~~ Subsection as the "program", is hereby
 5 established to aid in the recruitment of law enforcement officers within the state.
 6 The purpose of the program is to provide one-time incentive payments of five
 7 thousand dollars to certain newly employed law enforcement officers in the state.

8 ~~D.~~(1) For purposes of this ~~Section~~ Subsection, the following terms shall have
 9 the following meanings:

10 ~~(1)~~(a) "Eligible agency" means a sheriff's office, municipal police
 11 department, or the office of state police within the Department of Public Safety and
 12 Corrections.

13 ~~(2)~~(b) "Law enforcement officer" means an officer whose permanent duties
 14 actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and seizures, or
 15 the execution of criminal warrants, and who is responsible for the prevention or
 16 detection of crime or for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of
 17 this state. "Law enforcement officer" shall not include any elected or appointed head
 18 of a law enforcement department.

19 ~~(3)~~(c) "Municipality" means an incorporated city, town, or village.

20 ~~(4)~~(d) "Newly employed officer" means a person who gains or is appointed
 21 to full-time employment as a law enforcement officer with a Louisiana eligible
 22 agency on or after July 1, 2023, and who has never before been employed as a law
 23 enforcement officer in this state.

24 E.(2) To qualify for the incentive payment, a newly employed officer shall
 25 meet the following criteria:

26 ~~(1)~~(a) Attain POST-certification within one year of the date on which
 27 employment begins.

28 ~~(2)~~(b) Maintain continuous full-time employment with an eligible agency for
 29 a least two years from the date on which employment begins. The required two-year
 30 employment period may be satisfied by maintaining employment at one or more
 31 eligible agencies, but such period shall not contain any break in service longer than
 32 fifteen calendar days.

33 ~~F.~~(1)(3)(a) An incentive payment made pursuant to this ~~Section~~ Subsection
 34 shall be reimbursed by the officer who received payment to the state treasurer under
 35 any of the following circumstances:

36 ~~(a)~~(i) The officer voluntarily separates from employment with an employing
 37 agency prior to completion of two years of employment, as provided in
 38 Paragraph ~~(E)~~(2) of this ~~Section~~ (2)(b) of this Subsection.

39 ~~(b)~~(ii) The officer has a break in service of more than fifteen days.

40 ~~(c)~~(iii) The officer is dismissed for cause by the employing agency.

41 ~~(2)~~(b) The employing agency shall notify the treasurer if an officer who
 42 received payment does not meet the required two-year employment period.

43 ~~(3)~~(c) The treasurer shall send a determination letter to any officer who is
 44 required to reimburse an incentive payment pursuant to ~~this Subsection~~ Paragraph
 45 (3) of this Subsection to the officer's last-known mailing address. Reimbursement
 46 of the incentive payment shall be made to the treasurer within twelve months of the
 47 date on the determination letter.

48 ~~G.~~(1)(4)(a) Any request for an incentive payment for a deputy sheriff shall
 49 be submitted by the sheriff of the respective parish to the Deputy Sheriff's
 50 Supplemental Pay Board for review and approval. The board shall submit the
 51 approved request to the state treasurer for payment. The treasurer shall remit
 52 payments from the fund for deputy sheriffs to the sheriff's office of the respective
 53 parish. The sheriff of each parish shall expend such funds solely for paying the
 54 incentive payment.

55 ~~(2)~~(b) Any request for an incentive payment for a municipal police officer
 56 shall be submitted by the chief of police of the respective municipality to the
 57 Supplemental Pay Board of Review for Municipal Police Officers for review and
 58 approval. The board shall submit the approved request to the state treasurer for
 59 payment. The treasurer shall remit payments from the fund for municipal police

1 officers to the police department of the respective municipality. The chief of police
 2 of each municipality shall expend such funds solely for paying the incentive
 3 payment.

4 ~~(3)~~(c) Any request for an incentive payment for a law enforcement officer
 5 employed by the office of state police shall be submitted pursuant to rules
 6 promulgated by the State Police Commission. The treasurer shall remit payments
 7 from the fund for the officer to the office of state police. The office of state police
 8 shall expend such funds solely for paying the incentive payment.

9 ~~(4)~~(d) Every request submitted pursuant to ~~this Subsection~~ the provisions of
 10 Paragraph (4) of this Subsection shall include:

11 ~~(a)~~(i) Certification from the submitting party that the newly employed officer
 12 meets the eligibility criteria for receiving the incentive payment.

13 ~~(b)~~(ii) A form signed by the newly employed officer acknowledging the
 14 reimbursement requirements for failure to maintain eligibility.

15 ~~H.~~(5) Payments shall be made on a first-come, first-served basis upon receipt
 16 of the approved request of any entity as provided for in ~~Subsection G of this Section~~
 17 Paragraph (4) of this Subsection. Payments shall cease when all monies in the fund
 18 have been expended.

19 ~~I.~~(6) To the extent necessary, any local civil service system shall promulgate
 20 rules for the effective implementation of ~~this Section~~ Subsection B of this Section
 21 within its jurisdiction.

22 ~~J.~~(7) The provisions of ~~this Section~~ Subsection B of this Section shall
 23 terminate on July 1, 2027. Upon termination of the program, the treasurer is hereby
 24 authorized and directed to transfer any unexpended and unencumbered monies in the
 25 fund to the ~~state general fund~~ to the Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Subfund.

26 C. The Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Program, hereafter referred to
 27 in this Subsection as the "program", is hereby established to aid in the retention of
 28 law enforcement officers whose permanent duties include the making of arrests, the
 29 performing of searches and seizures, the execution of criminal warrants, the
 30 prevention or detection of crime, and the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or
 31 highway laws of this state while employed by a public postsecondary education
 32 institution. The qualifying law enforcement officers shall receive a monthly stipend,
 33 payable from the Law Enforcement Retention Incentive Subfund, in the same
 34 amount as paid to law enforcement officers as provided by R.S. 40:1667.1.

35 (1) To qualify for an incentive payment made pursuant to the provisions of
 36 this Subsection, law enforcement officers shall meet the following criteria:

37 (a) Complete one year of employment as a full-time law enforcement officer
 38 at a public postsecondary institution.

39 (b) Attain P.O.S.T. certification within one year from the date on which
 40 employment begins.

41 (2) The monthly stipends provided pursuant to this Subsection shall be
 42 disbursed upon the warrant by a public postsecondary institution drawn on the state
 43 treasury. The warrant shall be approved and certified by the chief of police of a
 44 public postsecondary institution. The warrant shall have attached to it the names of
 45 the employees for whose benefit any particular warrant is drawn, together with the
 46 completed years of service of the employees and any other information as required
 47 by the state treasurer."
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