

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 975

BY REPRESENTATIVE ST. BLANC

SUNSET LAW: Re-creates the Department of Public Service

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(b), relative to the Department of
3 Public Service, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department
4 of Public Service and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to
5 provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence
6 of such statutory entities; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Public Service and the
10 statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30,
11 2026, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of
12 Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

13 Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Public
14 Service and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1
15 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 3031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department
16 of Public Service may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of
17 Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

18 Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that
19 those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

20 Section 4. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

1 §191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-
2 out period for statutory entities; table of dates

3 Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the
4 legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their
5 operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority
6 for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of
7 July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

8 * * *

9 (3) July 1, 2030:

10 * * *

11 (b) The Department of Public Service and all statutory entities made a part
12 of the department by law.

13 * * *

14 Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(b) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

15 Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the
16 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
17 June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 975 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

St. Blanc

Abstract: Re-creates the Department of Public Service.

Present law (Sunset) provides that the Dept. of Public Service and all the statutory entities made a part of that department by law shall begin to terminate their operations on July 1, 2026, and that all legislative authority for such entities shall cease as of July 1, 2027, unless the legislature enacts a bill authorizing the re-creation of the department and its statutory entities prior thereto.

Proposed law provides for the general re-creation of the Dept. of Public Service and its statutory entities, effective June 30, 2026, in accordance with the sunset law.

Proposed law supersedes the provisions of the sunset law which set out the procedure for review and re-creation and which require a separate bill to re-create each statutory entity within the department along with additional provisions.

Proposed law makes July 1, 2031, the new termination date and termination would begin July 1, 2030, unless the department is again re-created.

(Add R.S. 49:191(3)(b); Repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(b))