

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 210

2026 Regular Session

Melerine

May 27, 2026

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 210 by Representative Melerine, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

- 1. That the set of Senate Floor Amendments by Senator Cathey (#3994) be rejected.
- 2. That the following amendments to the Engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, delete lines 2 and 3 and insert the following:

"To enact R.S. 42:1111(C)(7), relative to payments from nonpublic sources; to provide for the applicability of certain provisions of Act No. 492 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature; to provide for retroactivity; to prohibit a statewide elected official from receiving compensation for lobbying, consulting, or advising; to provide for the outside employment of a member of a school board or municipal governing authority; to provide"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

"Section 1. R.S. 42:1111(C)(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1111. Payment from nonpublic sources

* * *

C. Payments for nonpublic service.

* * *

(7) A statewide elected official shall not be compensated for lobbying, consulting, or advising.

* * *"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, at the beginning of line 6, change "Section 1." to "Section 2."

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, at the beginning of line 1, change "Section 2." to "Section 3."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Michael Melerine

Senator Stewart Cathey Jr.

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV

Senator Mark Abraham

Representative Jessica Domangue

Senator Adam Bass

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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 210

2026 Regular Session

Melerine

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

ETHICS/CODE: Provides for retroactivity of certain provisions of Act No. 492 of the 2024 Regular Session

Report adopts Senate amendments to:

1. Prohibit statewide elected officials from being compensated for lobbying, consulting, or advising.

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Applied the prohibition related to statewide elected officials retroactively.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Make technical changes.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law (R.S. 42:1111) generally limits a public servant from accepting payments for services to his governmental entity, finder's fees, payments for nonpublic service devoted substantially to the programs of his agency or that draws substantially upon official data that has not become part of the body of public information, payments for future services, and payments for rendering assistance to certain persons. Present law provides for exceptions.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a statewide elected official shall not be compensated for lobbying, consulting, or advising.

Present law generally provides that no public servant and no legal entity in which the public servant exercises control or owns an interest in excess of 25% shall receive any thing of economic value for or in consideration of services rendered, or to be rendered, to or for a source from whom the public servant is prohibited by present law (R.S. 42:1115(A)(1) or (B)) from receiving a gift.

Proposed law retains present law.

Act No. 492 of the 2024 Regular Session, effective June 5, 2024, enacted a present law exception authorizing a member of a school board or parish or municipal governing authority to continue employment with a person who has or is seeking a contractual or other business or financial relationship with his governmental entity or an agency under the jurisdiction or supervision of his governmental entity, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The member is a salaried or wage-earning employee of his employer.
- (2) The compensation of the member is substantially unaffected by his employer's contractual or other business or financial relationship with his governmental entity or other agency under the jurisdiction or supervision of his governmental entity.

- (3) The member is not an officer, director, trustee, or partner of his employer.
- (4) The member does not own an interest which exceeds one percent of the legal entity which employs him.
- (5) The member does not participate in any transaction with his governmental entity or agency under the jurisdiction or supervision of his governmental entity, including recusing himself from any vote, involving his employer.
- (6) The member complies with financial disclosure requirements.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the present law exception shall be applied prospectively and retroactively, but shall not apply to any matter subject to a final decision of the Board of Ethics or Ethics Adjudicatory Board rendered on or before the effective date of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that any member of a school board or parish or municipal governing authority who prior to June 5, 2024, was employed with a person that had or was seeking a contractual or other business or financial relationship with the member's governmental entity or an agency under the jurisdiction or supervision of the member's governmental entity shall not be required to comply with the disclosure requirements in present law for such employment. However, a person shall be required to file a disclosure for any employment on or after June 5, 2024.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 42:1111(C)(7))