

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 795 (HB 335)

2026 Regular Session

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Existing law requires a state agency or political subdivision to verify the citizenship status of an applicant who applies for federal, state, or local public benefits.

Existing law requires a state agency or political subdivision to complete certain tasks upon termination of the reasonable opportunity period to verify an applicant's citizenship status or upon receipt of final verification that an applicant is not a U.S. citizen or lacks satisfactory immigration status.

Existing law requires the state agency or political subdivision to provide a report to the legislature at the end of each fiscal year.

New law applies existing law to any entity administering federal, state, or local public benefits.

New law further provides that the agency, political subdivision, or entity administering federal, state, or local public benefits is subject to audit by the legislative auditor after the reasonable opportunity period for verification.

New law excludes entities providing services related to domestic abuse, sexual assault, sexual harassment, human trafficking, homelessness, disaster response, or pregnancy assistance from the provisions of existing and new law; however, such entities are required to do the following:

- (1) Retain specified information and records of persons served to comply with auditing requirements.
- (2) Comply with federal requests for information and cooperate with federal authorities.

New law excludes the following from the provisions of existing and new law:

- (1) Organizations, farmers' markets, farm stands, and nonprofit organizations that distribute food or provide incentives for food.
- (2) Entities acting in good faith to protect life, health, or access to essential services during emergencies or disaster response.
- (3) Healthcare providers serving Medicaid recipients.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 46:233.4(A), (C)(intro. para.), and (D); Adds R.S. 46:233.4(C)(4) and (G)-(J))