
DIGEST

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HB 708 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Crews

Abstract: Provides an exception to the crime of payroll padding by a sheriff for an increase in expenses necessitated by the completion of a new or expansion of an emergency communications call or dispatch center.

Present law provides that during the six months preceding a gubernatorial election and during the time interval between the gubernatorial election and the first day of July following election, it shall be unlawful for any sheriff to engage in any of the following:

- (1) Increase the number of deputies or employees in his office by more than five percent over the average number of such employees for each of the first six months of the 12 months preceding the election.
- (2) Increase the payroll or other operating expenses of his office more than 15% over its average amount of such expenditures for each of the months of the first six months of the 12 months preceding the election.
- (3) Transfer title and ownership of the capital assets of his office of a value in excess of 10% of the total value of assets as reflected in the current inventory filed in the office of the sheriff on date of the first primary election.

In this regard, proposed law corrects an outdated reference to the primary election system by referring to the primary election instead of the "first" primary election.

Present law provides that these provisions shall not apply when the increases or decreases are necessitated by flood, invasion by common enemy, or other public emergency; nor to any increase based upon the utilization of additional revenue from a tax district election or to an increase necessitated by the completion of a new or expansion of an existing prison facility.

Proposed law extends this exception to apply to an increase necessitated by the completion of a new or expanded emergency communications call or dispatch center.

(Amends R.S. 14:139.1(A), (B), and (C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Correct outdated reference to the primary election system by referring to the "primary election" instead of the "first primary election".
2. Remove from the proposed law exception an increase necessitated by the completion of a new or expanded facility that provides support services to the office of the sheriff.