## **DIGEST**

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HB 27 Original

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Zeringue

**Abstract:** Exempts businesses from paying fees to state agencies during a state of emergency.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the governor or a parish president to declare a state of emergency pursuant to the La. Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the governor to declare a state of public health emergency pursuant to the La. Health Emergency Powers Act.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that during a state of emergency or public health emergency, a business physically located within the designated emergency area shall be exempt from the payment of any fee, including a licensing fee, occupational fee, certification fee, or permitting fee, payable to any state agency that is attributable to the business's operation within the designated emergency area.

<u>Proposed law provides</u> that the fee exemption shall extend until one year after the termination of the state of emergency. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may further extend the exemption.

<u>Proposed law provides</u> that the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may create an exception to the exemption for a certain fee or allow an extension of the due date for a certain fee upon a showing by the agency that such fee is necessary to fund the agency's operations.

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

(Adds R.S. 29:732.1 and 776)