The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Lann.

DIGEST 2021 Regular Session

Cathey

SB 31 Engrossed

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for an individual income tax exemption not to exceed the lesser of \$150,000 or the gross wages of each taxpayer who qualifies as a digital nomad.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides the exemption applies only to gross wages received from the services performed as a digital nomad for a period of up to two taxable years during taxable years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires a taxpayer claiming the digital nomad exemption to maintain domicile in Louisiana for one calendar year following the last year the exemption is claimed.

Proposed law provides "digital nomad" means an individual who:

- (1) Establishes residency in Louisiana after December 31, 2021.
- (2) Is considered a covered person with major medical health insurance.
- (3) Is self-employed or works remotely full-time for a nonresident business.
- (4) Is required to file a Louisiana resident or part-year resident individual income tax return for the taxable year in which the exemption is claimed.
- (5) Has not been domiciled in Louisiana for any of the prior three years.
- (6) Has not been required to file a Louisiana resident or part-year resident individual income tax return for any of the prior three years.
- (7) Performs the majority of employment duties in this state either remotely or at a coworking space.

Proposed law defines the following terms:

- (1) "Covered person" means a policyholder, subscriber, enrollee, or other individual enrolled in or insured by a health insurance issuer for major medical health insurance coverage.
- "Major medical health insurance coverage" means any hospital, health, or medical expense insurance policy, hospital or medical service contract, health and accident insurance policy, or any other contract of this type providing comprehensive major medical benefits, including a group insurance plan, or any policy of family group, blanket, or association health and

accident insurance, a self-insurance plan, an employee welfare benefit plan, or a health maintenance organization subscriber agreement. The term "major medical health insurance" does not include publicly funded programs, including federal governmental benefit plans, that are wholly or partially funded by this state.

(3) "Nonresident business" means a business entity that is not registered to do business in this state, has no agents, independent contractors, or employees other than digital nomads in this state, is not transacting business in this state, and has not filed and is not required to file any state or local tax return in this state.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires a taxpayer claiming the digital nomad exemption to maintain all records necessary to verify that they meet the requirements of <u>proposed law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the Dept. of Revenue to limit the number of taxpayers eligible for the digital nomad exemption to 1,000 individuals for the life of the program.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the Dept. of Revenue to provide an annual written evaluation of the individual income tax exemption for digital nomads and its effectiveness in inducing individuals to locate in Louisiana and present its findings to the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and the House Committee on Ways and Means by January 1 of each year beginning in 2024.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for recovery of the exemption by the Dept. of Revenue through any collection remedy authorized in <u>present law</u> if the exemption is disallowed.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the Dept. of Revenue to promulgate rules in accordance with the APA.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for a sunset of the exemption for any wages earned by a digital nomad after December 31, 2025.

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

(Adds R.S. 47:293(9)(a)(xx) and 297.16)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

<u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to</u> the original bill

- 1. Provides for an individual income tax exemption not to exceed the lesser of \$150,000 or the gross wages of each taxpayer who qualifies as a digital nomad.
- 2. Provides the exemption applies only to gross wages received from the services performed as a digital nomad for a period of up to two taxable years during taxable years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

- 3. Requires a taxpayer claiming the digital nomad exemption to maintain domicile in Louisiana for one calendar year following the last year the exemption is claimed.
- 4. Provides for changes to the definition of "digital nomad" and defines "nonresident business".
- 5. Removes LED from the provisions of proposed law.
- 6. Requires the Dept. of Revenue to limit the number of taxpayers eligible for the digital nomad exemption to 1,000 individuals for the life of the program.
- 7. Provides for recovery of the exemption by the Dept. of Revenue.
- 8. Authorizes the Dept. of Revenue to promulgate rules.
- 9. Provides for a sunset of the exemption for any wages earned by a digital nomad after December 31, 2025.