DIGEST

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HB 513 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Landry

Abstract: Establishes the Burial Fund for Pregnancy-Related Maternal Deaths (hereafter "fund") in the state treasury and provides for deposit of monies into the fund.

<u>Proposed law</u> creates the fund as a special fund in the state treasury. Requires that, after allocation of monies pursuant to <u>present constitution</u> relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, the treasurer shall deposit into the fund all gifts, grants, donations, and appropriations made to the fund. Further provides that all unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund shall remain in the fund. Provides that monies in the fund shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. Authorizes interest earned on investment of fund monies to be credited to the fund.

<u>Proposed law</u> further requires the legislature to provide by law for a program to administer payments from the fund. Further requires any such program to mandate that payments made from the fund be payable directly to the funeral establishment furnishing funeral goods and services to the family of the deceased. Uses definitions in <u>present law</u> (R.S. 37:831) for "funeral establishment" and "funeral goods and services": "funeral establishment" means any place or premises duly licensed by the board and devoted to or used in the care and preparation for disposition of the body of a deceased person or maintained or held out to the public by advertising or otherwise as the office or place for the practice of funeral directing and "funeral goods and services" means one or more of (a) goods which are sold or offered for sale directly to the public for use in connection with funeral services, (b) any services which may be used to care for or prepare deceased human remains for burial, cremation, or other final disposition, (c) the arranging, supervising, or conducting of the funeral ceremony or the final disposition of deceased human bodies, and (d) funeral merchandise.

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

(Adds R.S. 39:100.11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Appropriations</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

1. Require any program adopted pursuant to <u>proposed law</u> to provide for payments to be made directly to the "funeral establishment" furnishing "funeral goods and services" to the family of the deceased, as defined in present law.