HLS 23RS-27 ORIGINAL

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 100

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BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SUPPLEMENTAL PAY: Provides state supplemental pay to public emergency medical services practitioners

1 AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1666.1(A)(1) and (2) and (C) and 1666.3(A) through (C), relative to state supplemental pay for certain public employees; to authorize payment of a state supplement for the salaries of certain emergency medical services practitioners; to provide with respect to requirements for and the amount of such payments; to provide relative to disbursement of such payments; to make technical corrections; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1666.1(A)(1) and (2) and (C) and 1666.3(A) through (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1666.1. Extra compensation

A.(1)(a) In addition to the compensation now paid by any municipality, parish, fire protection district, or other political subdivision maintaining a fire department, or by the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana or the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, hereinafter referred to as "tribe", or by any nonprofit corporation contracting with any such political subdivision to provide fire protection services to every paid, regularly employed employee who is paid not less than three hundred dollars per month, not including supplemental pay, as distinguished from part-time employees and volunteers of such fire department, who are carried on the payroll of such fire department, and every employee as defined herein who is paid from funds

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

of the parish or municipality or tribe obtained through lawfully adopted bond issues, lawfully assessed taxes, or other funds available for such purpose, either directly or through a board or commission set up by law or ordinance of the parish or municipality or tribe, shall be paid extra compensation by the state in the amount of five hundred dollars per month for each such paid employee who has completed or who hereafter completes one year of service. The provisions of Paragraph (5) of this Subsection shall govern the requirements for length of service for employees who were ordered to active military duty in the armed services of the United States during their initial term of employment.

(b)(i) Beginning July 1, 2025, in addition to the compensation now paid by any municipality, parish, fire protection district, or other political subdivision to every paid, regularly employed emergency medical services practitioner employed by a political subdivision of the state who is paid not less than three hundred dollars per month, not including supplemental pay, shall be paid extra compensation by the state in the amount of five hundred dollars per month if the emergency medical services practitioner has completed or hereafter completes one year of service with the political subdivision.

- (ii) For the purposes of this Section, unless context clearly indicates otherwise, the term "emergency medical services practitioner" means a person employed by a political subdivision of the state as a licensed emergency medical technician, a licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or a licensed paramedic. The term shall not include a part-time employee or volunteer who is carried on the payroll of a political subdivision.
- (2) The term "employee" as used herein expressly excludes any person hired primarily to perform secretarial and clerical duties, switchboard operators, secretaries, record clerks, maintenance personnel, and mechanics.; With respect to individuals employed to provide fire protection services as provided in Subparagraph (1)(a) of this Subsection, it shall expressly exclude employees hired after March 31, 1986; who have not completed and passed a certified fireman's training program

equal to National Fire Protection Association Standard 1001 Firefighter I Certification or a firefighter's training program as approved by the office of state fire marshal Fire and Emergency Training Academy in accordance with R.S. 40:1541 et seq.; and it shall also expressly exclude part-time employees and volunteers of such municipal, parish, tribe, or fire protection district fire departments.

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C.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the compensation for tribal officers of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana <u>pursuant to</u>

<u>Subparagraph (A)(1)(a) of this Section</u> shall be for no more than ten such firemen.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the compensation for tribal officers of the Coushatta Indian Tribe of Louisiana pursuant to Subparagraph (A)(1)(a) of this Section shall be for no more than ten such firemen.

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§1666.3. Warrants

A.(1) The funds credited and dedicated as herein provided <u>for payments</u> made pursuant to R.S. 40:1666.1(A)(1)(a) shall be disbursed upon warrants drawn by the mayors or parish officials of the respective municipalities or parishes coming under the provisions of this Part, which warrants shall have attached to them a detailed list of the names of the employees for whose benefit any particular warrant is drawn, together with the completed years of service of such employees and such other information as the state fire marshal may require.

(2) The funds credited and dedicated as herein provided for payments made pursuant to R.S. 40:1666.1(A)(1)(b) shall be disbursed upon warrants drawn by the head of the political subdivision employing such emergency medical services practitioner, which warrants shall have attached to them a detailed list of the names of the employees for whose benefit any particular warrant is drawn, together with the completed years of service of such employees and such other information as the state fire marshal may require.

B. The mayors or parish officials of the respective municipalities or parishes head of the political subdivision employing the eligible employee shall forward the warrants to the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and, after obtaining approval of the board as provided in R.S. 40:1666.8 hereof, the secretary of the Department of Public Safety shall cause to be prepared and shall sign individual checks representing the amount to be paid out of state funds to each employee in accordance with the provisions of this Subsection. Each such check shall show the legislative appropriation from which payment is made and shall note that it represents additional compensation paid by the state under the provisions of this Part. The secretary shall deliver the checks to the individual employees in whose favor they are drawn, by mail, or by such other means as he shall determine.

C. The head of the political subdivision employing eligible emergency medical services practitioners or the mayor or other municipal or parish officer of the municipalities or parishes employing persons entitled to additional compensation from the state under the provisions of this Part, as applicable, who is charged with the responsibility of preparing the pay rolls for such employees, shall include the additional compensation paid by the state to such employees in the calculation and deduction from the pay of such employees of the sums required by state or federal law to be withheld by an employer, such as federal income tax and social security tax or contributions to local retirement systems. Any officials so charged with withholding sums from the pay of the municipal or parish paid fire department employees shall be further charged with the responsibility of transmitting the sums so withheld in accordance with the law or laws requiring the withholding.

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Section 2. This Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. ____ of this 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 100 Original

2023 Regular Session

Bagley

Abstract: Authorizes payment of state supplements to the salaries of certain emergency medical services practitioners.

<u>Present law</u> provides for state supplemental pay of \$500 per month for any regularly employed firefighter who is paid not less than \$300 per month by any municipality, parish, fire protection district, or other political subdivision maintaining a fire department, or by the Chitimacha Tribe of La., or Coushatta Tribe of La., or any nonprofit corporation contracting with any political subdivision to provide fire protection services and who completes one year of service. Proposed law retains present law.

Beginning July 1, 2025, <u>proposed law</u> further authorizes state supplemental pay of \$500 per month for any regularly employed emergency medical services practitioner employed by a political subdivision of the state who completes one year of service and is paid not less than \$300 per month by the political subdivision. Defines "emergency medical services practitioner" for the purposes of <u>proposed law</u> to mean a person employed by a political subdivision of the state as a licensed emergency medical technician, a licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or a licensed paramedic. Further provides the term does not include a part-time employee or volunteer who is carried on the payroll of a political subdivision.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the term "employee" for purposes of <u>present law</u> expressly excludes any person hired primarily to perform secretarial and clerical duties, switchboard operators, secretaries, record clerks, maintenance personnel, and mechanics. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>. <u>Present law</u> further provides that the term "employee" expressly excludes employees hired after March 31, 1986, who have not completed and passed a certified fireman's training program equal to National Fire Protection Association Standard 1001 Firefighter I Certification or a firefighter's training program as approved by the office of state fire marshal Fire and Emergency Training Academy in accordance with <u>present law</u> and it also expressly excludes part-time employees and volunteers of such municipal, parish, tribe, or fire protection district fire departments. <u>Proposed law</u> limits these exclusions to individuals employed to provide fire protection services.

<u>Present law</u> limits application of salary supplements for tribal officers of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana and the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana to no more than 10 firemen. <u>Proposed law</u> restricts this limitation to firemen only and not to public emergency medical services providers.

<u>Present law</u> establishes procedures for warrants drawn to pay the monthly supplement authorized by <u>present law</u>. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> procedures for the payment of supplements to firemen as provided in <u>present law</u>. Further provides that for public emergency medical services providers, the head of the political subdivision employing the eligible provider must submit the warrant for payment and requires inclusion a of the same information as required for firemen's warrants. Also requires the head of the political subdivision employing the eligible provider to calculate and deduct from such pay the required state and federal withholdings.

Effective if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution of La. contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. ____ of this 2023 R.S. of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 40:1666.1(A)(1) and (2) and (C) and 1666.3(A) - (C))