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## DIGEST

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HB 410 Original

2025 Regular Session

Knox

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the renovation of landmarks and public property within historic preservation districts.

Proposed law provides that in addition to all other applicable provisions of law, when the state or a parish or municipality undertakes restoration, renovation, or other construction work that is greater than \$200,000 in value and that is performed on the exterior of public property that is a contributing rated structure within a historic preservation district or designated as a landmark, the following also apply:

- (1) Prior to beginning any such project on a historic structure, the state or parish or municipality shall notify the legislators representing the legislative district in which the historic structure is located and the local historic district commission. The notification shall be submitted in writing, describe the scope of the proposed work, and reference proposed law.
- (2) A local historic district commission may, at its discretion, choose to undertake the process of review and approval of a project. The decision to review must be made within 30 days of the submittal of the project to the historic district commission. If a historic district commission chooses to review a project proposal, it shall provide an opportunity for public hearing.
- (3) Any project that meets such criteria shall be subject to review and approval at the discretion of the local historic district commission. Such project must adhere to the guidelines and best practices outlined by Dept. of the Interior, including the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation and other relevant preservation best practices, or receive a certificate of appropriateness as prescribed under present law (R.S. 25:738).

Proposed law provides the following definitions:

- (1) "Contributing rated structures" means resources that are designated by a local historic district commission as historically or architecturally significant to a city or community.
- (2) "Project" means any restoration, renovation, or other construction work that is greater than \$200,000 in value and that is performed to the exterior of property that is owned by the state or a parish or municipality and that is designated as a landmark or is a contributing rated structure within a historic preservation district.

Proposed law provides that proposed law does not apply to emergency repairs that prevent further damage to a historic structure.

Proposed law authorizes a local historic district commission to issue a stop order for any planned or active project that is not in compliance with the provisions of proposed law, or file suit within 30 days from the date of the public hearing in a district court in the parish in which the district is located to seek reversal or modification of the project, injunctive relief, or any other relief provided by law or equity, in order to seek compliance with proposed law.

Proposed law applies prospectively only and does not apply to any project that begins before Aug. 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 25:747)