

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 36

2025 Regular Session

Schlegel

June 9, 2025

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 36 by Representative Schlegel, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

1. That Senate Floor Amendment No. 1 by Senator Pressly (#2607) be rejected.
2. That Senate Floor Amendments Nos. 2 and 3 by Senator Pressly (#2607) be adopted.
3. That the following amendments to the reengrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "R.S. 9:2800.63(B)(1)" and before the comma "," insert "and to enact R.S. 9:2800.63(E)"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, at the end of line 6, insert "and R.S. 9:2800.63(E) is hereby enacted"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, delete lines 11 through 15 and insert the following:

"(2) "Illegal controlled substance" means either of the following:

(a) ~~cocaine~~ Cocaine, phencyclidine, heroin, or methamphetamine and any other illegal controlled dangerous substance the possession or distribution of which is a violation of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law, R.S. 40:961 et seq.

(b) A consumable hemp product as defined in R.S. 3:1481, the possession or distribution of which is a violation of R.S. 3:1482 or 3:1483."

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Laurie Schlegel

Senator Adam Bass

Representative Nicholas Muscarello, Jr.

Senator Thomas A. Pressly

Representative Debbie Villio

Senator Kirk Talbot

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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 36**2025 Regular Session****Schlegel**

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

LIABILITY/CIVIL: Provides relative to consumable hemp

Report adopts Senate amendments to:

1. Make technical corrections.
2. Provide exceptions to actions for damages from use of consumable hemp products in certain circumstances.

Report rejects Senate amendment which would have:

1. Provided that a consumable hemp product is considered an "illegal controlled substance" in certain circumstances.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Make technical corrections.
2. Specify that a consumable hemp product is considered an "illegal controlled substance" when the distribution or possession of it is in violation of R.S. 3:1482 (prohibitions) or 1483 (permit and packaging requirements).

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law (R.S. 9:2800.62(2)) defines "illegal controlled substance" as cocaine, phencyclidine, heroin, or methamphetamine, and any other illegal controlled dangerous substance the possession or distribution of which is a violation present law.

Proposed law expands the definition of "illegal controlled substance" to include consumable hemp products as defined in R.S. 3:1481 (any product derived from industrial hemp that contains any cannabinoid, including cannabidiol or THC, and is intended for consumption or topical use) when the distribution or possession of it is in violation of R.S. 3:1482 (prohibitions) or 1483 (permit and packaging requirements).

Present law (R.S. 9:2800.63(A)) provides a list of people who have a cause of action for damages caused by an individual's use of an illegal controlled substance. Present law (R.S. 9:2800.63(B)) also provides the circumstances which give rise to that cause of action.

Proposed law includes an action for damages when a person sells, administers, or furnishes consumable hemp to a person under the age of 21.

Proposed law (R.S. 9:2800.63(E)) provides an exception to causes of action for damages when the damages were caused by an individual's use of a consumable hemp product and any of the following applies:

- (1) The sole allegation is that the processor, wholesaler, or retailer was operating without an active permit, provided the business held a valid permit at the time of applying for renewal, and the renewal application was under review by the La. Dept. of Health or the office of alcohol and tobacco control at the time of the alleged offense.
- (2) The consumable hemp product that caused the damage was approved by the La. Dept. of Health at the time of the alleged incident.
- (3) The consumable hemp product that caused the damage had been previously approved by the La. Dept. of Health and had not been revoked for more than 60 days prior to the alleged incident.

Proposed law also provides an exception to the exemption from proposed law if the individual injured as a result of the use of the consumable hemp product is a minor.

(Amends R.S. 9:2800.62(2) and 2800.63(B)(1); Adds R.S. 9:2800.63(E))