2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 579

BY REPRESENTATIVES EMERSON AND CHASSION AND SENATOR EDMONDS

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3801(A) and (C) and 3802(A)(1), R.S. 39:98.1, 98.2(A) and
3	(E), 98.3(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph), and 100.161(B)(3), and R.S.
4	40:1669(J), to enact R.S. 17:407.30.2 and R.S. 39:98.2(F) and 100.161(E), and to
5	repeal Chapter 35 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised
6	of R.S. 17:3801 through 3805, and R.S. 39:98.3(C) and (E) and 100.116(A)(9),
7	relative to certain treasury funds; to provide for the transfer, deposit, and use, as
8	specified, of monies in certain treasury funds and accounts; to provide for the
9	investment of certain treasury funds and accounts; to repeal certain treasury funds
10	and accounts; to establish the Early Childhood Education Stability Fund; to provide
11	with respect to termination of certain funds; to provide with respect to the authority
12	of the Louisiana State Law Institute; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for
13	related matters.
14	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
15	Section 1. R.S. 17:3801(A) and (C) and 3802(A)(1) are hereby amended and
16	reenacted and R.S. 17:407.30.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:
17	§407.30.2. Early Childhood Education Stability Fund
18	A. There is hereby established in the state treasury as a special fund the Early
19	Childhood Education Stability Fund, hereafter referred to in this Section as the
20	"fund".
21	B. After satisfying the requirements of the Bond Security and Redemption
22	Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana,
23	monies shall be deposited into the fund as follows:

1	(1) Beginning July 1, 2026, and continuing each July first thereafter the
2	treasurer shall transfer an amount equal to eleven million dollars into the fund from
3	the state general fund.
4	(2) Monies designated for the fund and received by the state treasurer from
5	donations, gifts, grants, or other revenue.
6	C. Monies in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same
7	manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on the investment of
8	monies in the fund shall be deposited into the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered
9	monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.
10	D. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the State Board of Elementary
11	and Secondary Education, the Department of Education, or both for early childhood
12	education programs and initiatives.
13	* * *
14	§3801. Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to in this Part
15	as the "Kevin P. Reilly, Sr. Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund"
16	A.(1) There shall be established in the state treasury as a special permanent
17	trust fund, the "Kevin P. Reilly, Sr. Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund",
18	henceforth referred to as the "Permanent Trust Fund". After allocation of money to
19	the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of
20	the constitution, and notwithstanding Article XIV, Section 10 of the constitution, the
21	treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Permanent Trust Fund all money which is
22	received from the federal government under Section 1337(g) of Title 43 of the
23	United States Code which is attributable to mineral production activity or leasing
24	activity on the Outer Continental Shelf which has been held in escrow pending a
25	settlement between the United States and the state of Louisiana, except the first one

hundred million dollars so received; twenty-five percent of the recurring revenues

received under Section 1337(g) of Title 43 of the United States Code which are

attributable to mineral production activity or leasing activity on the Outer

Continental Shelf; twenty-five percent of the interest income earned on investment

of monies in the Permanent Trust Fund; and seventy-five percent of realized capital

26

27

28

29

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

gains and twenty-five percent of dividend income earned on investment of the Permanent Trust Fund. No appropriation shall be made from the Permanent Trust Fund.

Trust Fund from those monies received from the federal government under Section 1337(g) of Title 43 of the United States Code which are attributable to mineral production activity or leasing activity on the Outer Continental Shelf which has been held in escrow pending a settlement between the United States and the state of Louisiana, the sum of fifty million dollars shall be credited from such monies to the Coastal Environment Protection Trust Fund, as established in R.S. 30:313; all such funds in excess of seven hundred fifty million dollars shall be credited to the Permanent Trust Fund.

(3) After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the constitution, and notwithstanding Article XIV, Section 10 of the constitution, seventy-five percent of the recurring revenues received under Section 1337(g) of Title 43 of the United States Code which are attributable to mineral production activity or leasing activity, seventy-five percent of the interest income earned on investment of the Permanent Trust Fund, and twenty-five percent of realized capital gains and seventy-five percent of the dividend income earned on investment of the Permanent Trust Fund shall be deposited and credited to a There is hereby created a special fund which is hereby created in the state treasury, and which shall be known as the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund, hereinafter hereafter referred to in this Section as the "Support Fund". Beginning July 1, 2001, and only as to and in the accounting of earnings after that date, the treasurer shall account for earnings from the Permanent Fund in a manner which allocates the earnings between the Permanent Fund and the Support Fund in the proportions as herein provided as such earnings are realized. Beginning July 1, 2001, and only as to and in the accounting of earnings after that date, the treasurer shall account for earnings attributable to Support Fund balances due the boards of

education separately and allocate such earnings to the credit of each board respectively.

(4) All recurring revenues and interest earnings shall be credited to the respective funds as provided in Paragraphs (1) and (2) above until the balance in the Permanent Trust Fund equals two billion dollars. After the Permanent Trust Fund reaches a balance of two billion dollars, all interest earnings on the Permanent Trust Fund shall be credited to the Support Fund and all recurring revenues shall be credited to the State General Fund.

- C.(1) The amounts in the Support Fund shall be available for appropriation to pay expenses incurred for outside investment managers for the investment and management of the Permanent Trust Fund and for other custody, investment, and disbursement costs directly attributable to the Permanent Trust Fund, and for educational purposes only as provided in these Sections.
- of Regents each shall annually submit to the legislature and the governor not less than sixty days prior to the beginning of each regular session of the legislature a proposed program and budget for the expenditure of the monies in the Support Fund. Proposals for such expenditures shall be designed to improve the quality of education. Except for monies appropriated to pay expenses incurred in investment and management of the Permanent Trust Fund, monies appropriated from the Support Fund by the legislature shall be disbursed to the Board of Regents and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to be allocated by them as provided by law or the constitution to the programs as previously approved by the legislature.
- (3) The treasurer shall disburse not more than fifty percent of the monies in the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by the Board of Regents for any or all of the following higher educational purposes to enhance economic development:

HB NO. 579	ENROLLEI
ПВ NU. 3/9	ENKULLEI

1	(a) The carefully defined research efforts of public and private universities
2	in Louisiana.
3	(b) The endowment of chairs for eminent scholars.
4	(c) The enhancement of the quality of academic, research, or agricultural
5	departments or units within a community college, college, or university. These funds
6	shall not be used for athletic purposes or programs.
7	(d) The recruitment of superior graduate students.
8	(4) (3) The treasurer shall disburse not more than fifty percent of the monies
9	in the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by
10	the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for any or all of the
11	following elementary and secondary educational purposes:
12	(a) To provide compensation to city or parish school board professional
13	instructional employees.
14	(b) To insure an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books,
15	equipment, and other instructional materials.
16	(c) To fund exemplary programs in elementary, secondary, or vocational-
17	technical schools designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic
18	achievement, or vocational-technical skill.
19	(d) To fund carefully defined research efforts, including pilot programs,
20	designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic achievement.
21	(e) To fund summer school remediation programs and preschool programs.
22	(f) To fund the teaching of foreign languages in elementary and secondary
23	schools.
24	(g) To fund an adequate supply of teachers by providing scholarships or
25	stipends to prospective teachers in academic areas where there is a critical teacher
26	shortage.
27	* * *
28	§3802. Appropriations; procedure; limitation; administration
29	A.(1) Consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of Louisiana, the
30	The legislature shall appropriate the total amount of the funds in the Louisiana

Quality Education Support Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "support fund", intended for higher educational purposes to the Board of Regents and the total amount intended for elementary and secondary educational purposes to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education itemized by program or other recipient purpose. Such itemization shall occur in both the executive budget and in the general appropriation bill and, except as otherwise provided by the constitution, budget and appropriation functions shall be conducted as provided by law. Passage of the general appropriation bill shall constitute legislative approval of the programs or purposes to which money is appropriated.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 39:98.1, 98.2(A) and (E), 98.3(A) and (C)(introductory paragraph), and 100.161(B)(3) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 39:98.2(F) and 100.161(E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§98.1. Creation of Funds; Millennium Trust

A. There shall be established in the state treasury as a special permanent trust fund known as the Millennium Trust. After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Millennium Trust certain monies received as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement, hereinafter the "Settlement Agreement", executed November 23, 1998, and approved by Consent Decree and Final Judgment entered in the case "Richard P. Ieyoub, Attorney General, ex rel. State of Louisiana v. Philip Morris, Incorporated, et al.", bearing Number 98-6473 on the docket of the Fourteenth Judicial District for the parish of Calcasieu, state of Louisiana; and all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Millennium Trust the following amounts of monies received as a result of the Settlement Agreement:

(1) Fiscal Year 2000-2001, forty-five percent of the total monies received that year.

1 (2) Fiscal Year 2001-2002, sixty percent of the total monies received that
2 year.
3 (3) Fiscal Year 2002-2003 and each fiscal year thereafter, seventy-five

(3) Fiscal Year 2002-2003 and each fiscal year thereafter, seventy-five percent of the total monies received that year. each fiscal year as a result of the Settlement Agreement. However, beginning in Fiscal Year 2011-2012 after the balance in the Millennium Trust reaches a total of one billion three hundred eighty million dollars, the The monies deposited in and credited to the Millennium Trust, received by the state as a result of the Settlement Agreement, shall be allocated to the various funds within the Millennium Trust as provided in Subsections B, C, and D of this Section TOPS Fund.

(4) For Fiscal Year 2000-2001, Fiscal Year 2001-2002, and Fiscal Year 2002-2003, ten percent of the total monies received in each of those years for credit to the Education Excellence Fund which, notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 39:98.3(A), shall be appropriated for the purposes provided in R.S. 39:98.3(C)(4).

- B.(1) The Health Excellence Fund shall be established as a special fund within the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall credit to the Health Excellence Fund one-third of the Settlement Agreement proceeds deposited each year into the Millennium Trust and one-third one-half of all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall report annually to the legislature as to the amount of Millennium Trust investment earnings credited to the Health Excellence Fund.
- (2) Beginning Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, the treasurer shall credit to the Health Excellence Fund one-third of all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust.
- (3) Beginning July 1, 2012, after After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall deposit in and credit to the Health Excellence Fund the revenues derived from the tax imposed by R.S. 47:841(B)(3).

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

C.(1) The Education Excellence Fund shall be established in the state treasury as a special fund within the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall credit to the Education Excellence Fund one-third of the Settlement Agreement proceeds deposited into the Millennium Trust and one-third of all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust. (2) Beginning Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, the treasurer shall credit to the Education Excellence Fund one-third of all dividend and

interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust.

D.(1) The TOPS Fund shall be established in the state treasury as a special fund within the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall credit to the TOPS Fund onethird of the Settlement Agreement proceeds deposited into the Millennium Trust and one-third of all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust.

(2) Beginning Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, the treasurer shall credit to the TOPS Fund one hundred percent of the Settlement Agreement proceeds deposited into the Millennium Trust and one-third one-half of all dividend and interest income and all realized capital gains on investment of monies in the Millennium Trust. The treasurer shall report annually to the legislature as to the amount of Millennium Trust settlement agreement proceeds investment earnings credited to the TOPS Fund.

(3) Upon the effective date of this Section, the state treasurer shall deposit, transfer, or otherwise credit funds in an amount equal to such Settlement Agreement proceeds deposited in and credited to the Millennium Trust received by the state between April 1, 2011, and the effective date of this Section to the TOPS Fund.

D. Monies credited to the Millennium Trust pursuant to Subsection A of this Section shall be invested by the treasurer. A portion of the monies, not to exceed thirty-five percent, may be invested in stock. However, the portion of monies in the Millennium Trust which may be invested in stock may be increased to no more than

fifty percent by a specific legislative instrument which receives a favorable vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature. The legislature shall provide for procedures for the investment of such monies as provided in R.S. 39:98.2. The treasurer may contract, subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, for the management of such investments and, if a contract is entered into, amounts necessary to pay the costs of the contract shall be appropriated from the Millennium Trust.

§98.2. Investment of Millennium Trust

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

A. The treasurer is authorized and directed to invest monies in the Millennium Trust which are available for investment in the investments permitted for the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, also known as the Kevin P. Reilly Sr. Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, as set forth in R.S. 17:3803(B), (D), and (E). any of the following:

(1) Time certificates of deposit of any bank domiciled or having a branch office in the state of Louisiana, savings accounts or shares of savings and loan associations and savings banks, as defined by R.S. 6:703(16) and (17), or share accounts and share certificate accounts of federally or state-chartered credit unions issuing time certificates of deposit, issued for the state treasurer under this authority. For those funds determined under prudent judgment of the state treasurer to be made available for investment in time certificates of deposit, the rate of interest paid by the banks shall be determined by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the state treasurer. Competitive bidding may be used to establish the rate of interest on fifty percent or less of the amount determined to be available as of that date for investment in time certificates of deposit. Those financial institutions bidding on time certificates of deposit shall meet the financial criteria established by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the state treasurer. At the time of investment, the interest rate under the provisions of this Subsection shall be a rate not less than the prevailing market interest rate on direct obligations of the United States Treasury with a similar length of maturity. The funds so invested shall not exceed at any time the amount insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)

1 in any one bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall not exceed 2 at any time the amount insured by the National Credit Union Administration, or other 3 deposit insurance corporation, in any one credit union, unless the uninsured portion 4 is collateralized by the pledge of securities in the manner provided by R.S. 49:321. (2) Direct obligations of the United States government, a United States 5 6 government agency, a United States government instrumentality, or a United States 7 government-sponsored enterprise, the timely payment of the principal and interest 8 of which is fully and explicitly guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the 9 government of the United States of America, and contained in a list promulgated by 10 the state treasurer. 11 (3) Direct obligations of a United States government agency, United States 12 government instrumentality, or United States government-sponsored enterprise, the 13 timely payment of principal and interest of which is fully guaranteed by the issuing 14 entity, but are not explicitly guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the government 15 of the United States, and contained in a list promulgated by the state treasurer. 16 (4) Stocks of any corporation listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the 17 American Stock Exchange, the National Association of Securities Dealers 18 Automated Quotations System, or other such stock exchange domiciled in the United 19 States and registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, 20 provided that the total investment in such stocks at any one time shall not exceed the 21 percentage authorized for the Millennium Trust for investment in stocks. 22 (5)(a) Investment grade commercial paper issued in the United States, traded 23 in the United States markets, denominated in United States dollars, with a short-term 24 rating of at least A-1 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or P-1 by 25 Moody's Investor Service, Inc. or the equivalent rating by a nationally recognized 26 statistical rating organization. 27 (b) Investment grade corporate notes and bonds issued in the United States, 28 traded in United States markets, denominated in United States dollars, rated BAA or 29 better by Moody's Investor Service, Inc., or BBB or better by Standard & Poor's

Financial Services LLC, and the trades of which are settled through The Depository

Trust & Clearing Corporation, a national clearinghouse in the United States for the settlement of securities trades.

- (6) Money market funds consisting solely of securities otherwise eligible for investment by the treasurer pursuant to this Section.
- (7) Open-end mutual funds, closed-end mutual funds, and unit investment trusts consisting solely of securities otherwise eligible for investment by the state treasurer.
- (8)(a) Tax exempt bonds and other taxable governmental bonds. In addition to all other investment authority related to the Millennium Trust, the state treasurer may invest in tax exempt bonds as defined in R.S. 49:342(C) and in taxable bonds issued by any state or a political subdivision or public corporation of any state, provided that such taxable bonds are rated at the time the investment is made by a nationally recognized rating agency in one of the three highest rating categories of that rating agency.
- (b) Bonds, debentures, notes, or other similar obligations issued in the United States market, denominated in United States dollars and which are the direct legal obligations of a foreign nation which the International Monetary Fund lists as an industrial country, for which investments in and/or business transactions with are not prohibited or restricted by any law, regulation, or rule of the United States or the state of Louisiana, and for which the full faith and credit of such nation has been pledged for the payment of principal and interest; provided that any such security shall be rated at least A- or better by Standard & Poor's Corporation or A3 or better by Moody's, Inc., or an equivalent investment grade by a securities ratings organization accepted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; and, provided further that the total investment in such foreign securities at any one time shall not exceed five percent of the market value of all investments held by the treasurer in the Millennium Trust, or any other fund or investment of funds subject to this investment authority.
- (9) Any investment managers hired on a contract basis to advise the treasurer regarding such investments shall be selected by the treasurer, subject to the approval

of the State Bond Commission, in accordance with a request for proposal process using strict selection criteria based on sound industry principles. The contract, as approved by the State Bond Commission, shall be on a fee, together with minimum exchange fee, basis or on a commission basis only. The state treasurer shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for such investments and for the selection of outside investment managers.

(10) Open-end mutual funds, closed-end mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and unit investment trusts consisting solely of international securities constructed to match or track the components of a market index provided by globally recognized index providers, including but not limited to MSCI, FTSE, Dow Jones, Standard & Poor's, Barclays, Citigroup, or any of their affiliates or successors and assigns; however, the total investment in any and all such index funds at any one time shall not exceed ten percent of the market value of all funds held by the treasurer in the Millennium Trust. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to allow the state treasurer to invest directly in the common stock of foreign companies known to do business with nations that support terrorism.

* * *

E.(1) In addition to all other investment authority granted for the Millennium

Trust, and notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the state treasurer

may enter into direct security repurchase agreements, reverse security repurchase

agreements, and securities lending contracts in order to generate passive income.

(2) For the purposes of this Subsection, the terms "direct security repurchase agreement" and "reverse security repurchase agreement" shall have the same meaning as in R.S. 49:327(B) and the term "securities lending" shall have the same meaning as in R.S. 49:321.1.

<u>F.</u> On or before December first of each year, the treasurer shall prepare and submit a report on the performance of the Millennium Trust to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget and the commissioner of administration for their review. With respect to the Education Excellence Fund, the report shall also be provided to the state superintendent of education.

§98.3. Appropriations from the Health Excellence Fund, the Education Excellence Fund, and the TOPS Fund

A.(1) Appropriations from the Education Excellence Fund shall be limited to an annual amount not to exceed the estimated aggregate annual earnings from interest, dividends, and realized capital gains on investment of the Millennium Trust allocated as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(B) and (C) as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference. Amounts determined to be available for appropriation shall be those aggregate investment earnings which are in excess of an inflation factor as determined by the Revenue Estimating Conference. The amount of estimated aggregate investment earnings available for appropriation shall be determined by subtracting the product of the inflation factor multiplied by the amount of aggregate investment earnings for the previous fiscal year from the amount of such estimated aggregate investment earnings. The amount of realized capital gains on investment which may be included in the aggregate earnings available for appropriation from the Millennium Trust in any fiscal year shall not exceed the aggregate of earnings from interest and dividends for that year.

(2)(a) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 appropriations from the Health Excellence Fund shall be limited to an annual amount not to exceed the estimated aggregate annual earnings from interest, dividends, and realized capital gains on investment of the trust and credited to the Health Excellence Fund as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(B)(2) and as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference.

(b) For Fiscal Year 2012-2013, and For each fiscal year thereafter, appropriations from the Health Excellence Fund shall be limited to an annual amount not to exceed the estimated aggregate annual earnings from interest, dividends, and realized capital gains on investment of the trust and credited to the Health Excellence Fund as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(B)(2) R.S. 39:98.1(B)(1) and as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference and the amount of proceeds credited to and deposited into the Health Excellence Fund as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(B)(3) R.S. 39:98.1(B)(2).

(3)(a) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012, appropriations from the TOPS Fund shall be limited to the amount of Settlement Agreement proceeds credited to and deposited into the TOPS Fund as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(D)(2) and (3), and an annual amount not to exceed the estimated aggregate annual earnings from interest, dividends, and realized capital gains on investment of the trust and credited to the TOPS Fund as provided by R.S. 39:98.1(D)(2) and as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference.

(b) (2)(a) For Fiscal Year 2012-2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, appropriations from the TOPS Fund shall be limited to the amount of annual Settlement Agreement proceeds credited to and deposited into the TOPS Fund as provided in R.S. 39:98.1(D)(2) R.S. 39:98.1(C), and an annual amount not to exceed the estimated aggregate annual earnings from interest, dividends, and realized capital gains on investment of the trust and credited to the TOPS Fund as provided in R.S. 39:98.1(D)(2) R.S. 39:98.1(C) and as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference.

(c) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, (b) The amounts determined to be available for appropriation from the TOPS Fund from interest earnings shall be those aggregate investment earnings which are in excess of an inflation factor as determined by the Revenue Estimating Conference. The amount of realized capital gains on investment which may be included in the aggregate earnings available for appropriation in any year shall not exceed the aggregate of earnings from interest and dividends for that year.

(4) (3) Actual earnings from interest, dividends, and capital gains during the fiscal year in excess of the amounts estimated as available for appropriation shall be credited to the appropriate fund and available for appropriation in subsequent years. Appropriations from the Health Excellence Fund, the Education Excellence Fund, and the TOPS Fund shall include performance expectations to ensure accountability in the expenditure of such monies.

C. The Education Excellence Fund shall be established in the state treasury
as a special fund within the Millennium Trust. Appropriations from the Education
Excellence Fund shall be restricted as follows:

* * *

§100.161. Louisiana Unclaimed Property Permanent Trust Fund

* * *

B.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

8 * * *

(3) Subject to the limitations provided in this Subsection, the state treasurer may invest the monies deposited in and credited to the UCP Permanent Trust Fund in the same manner as authorized for the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund as set forth in R.S. 17:3803. any of the following:

(i) Time certificates of deposit of any bank domiciled or having a branch office in the state of Louisiana, savings accounts or shares of savings and loan associations and savings banks, as defined by R.S. 6:703(16) and (17), or share accounts and share certificate accounts of federally or state-chartered credit unions issuing time certificates of deposit, issued for the state treasurer under this authority. For those funds determined under prudent judgment of the state treasurer to be made available for investment in time certificates of deposit, the rate of interest paid by the banks shall be determined by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the state treasurer. Competitive bidding may be used to establish the rate of interest on fifty percent or less of the amount determined to be available as of that date for investment in time certificates of deposit. Those financial institutions bidding on time certificates of deposit shall meet the financial criteria established by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the state treasurer. At the time of investment, the interest rate under the provisions of this Subsection shall be a rate not less than the prevailing market interest rate on direct obligations of the United States Treasury with a similar length of maturity. The funds so invested shall not exceed at any time the amount insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in any one bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall not exceed

1 at any time the amount insured by the National Credit Union Administration, or other 2 deposit insurance corporation, in any one credit union, unless the uninsured portion 3 is collateralized by the pledge of securities in the manner provided by R.S. 49:321. 4 (ii) Direct obligations of the United States government, a United States government agency, a United States government instrumentality, or a United States 5 6 government-sponsored enterprise, the timely payment of the principal and interest 7 of which is fully and explicitly guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the 8 government of the United States of America, and contained in a list promulgated by 9 the state treasurer. 10 (iii) Direct obligations of a United States government agency, United States 11 government instrumentality, or United States government-sponsored enterprise, the 12 timely payment of principal and interest of which is fully guaranteed by the issuing 13 entity, but are not explicitly guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the government 14 of the United States, and contained in a list promulgated by the state treasurer. 15 (iv) Stocks of any corporation listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the 16 American Stock Exchange, the National Association of Securities Dealers 17 Automated Quotations System, or other such stock exchange domiciled in the United 18 States and registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, 19 provided that the total investment in such stocks at any one time shall not exceed 20 thirty-five percent of the market value of all funds held by the treasurer in the UCP 21 Permanent Trust Fund. 22 (v)(aa) Investment grade commercial paper issued in the United States, 23 traded in the United States markets, denominated in United States dollars, with a 24 short-term rating of at least A-1 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or P-1 25 by Moody's Investor Service, Inc., or the equivalent rating by a nationally recognized 26 statistical rating organization. 27 (bb) Investment grade corporate notes and bonds issued in the United States, 28 traded in United States markets, denominated in United States dollars, rated BAA or 29 better by Moody's Investor Service, Inc., or BBB or better by Standard & Poor's

Financial Services LLC, and the trades of which are settled through The Depository

Trust & Clearing Corporation, a national clearinghouse in the United States for the settlement of securities trades.

(vi) Money market funds consisting solely of securities otherwise eligible for investment by the treasurer pursuant to this Section.

(vii) Open-end mutual funds, closed-end mutual funds, and unit investment trusts consisting solely of securities otherwise eligible for investment by the state treasurer.

(viii) Tax exempt bonds and other taxable governmental bonds. In addition to all other investment authority related to the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, the state treasurer may invest in tax exempt bonds as defined in R.S. 49:342(C), and in taxable bonds issued by any state or a political subdivision or public corporation of any state, provided that such taxable bonds are rated at the time the investment is made by a nationally recognized rating agency in one of the three highest rating categories of that rating agency.

(ix) Bonds, debentures, notes, or other similar obligations issued in the United States market, denominated in United States dollars and are the direct legal obligations of a foreign nation which the International Monetary Fund lists as an industrial country, for which investments in and/or business transactions with are not prohibited or restricted by any law, regulation, or rule of the United States or the state of Louisiana, and for which the full faith and credit of such nation has been pledged for the payment of principal and interest; provided that any such security shall be rated at least A- or better by Standard & Poor's Corporation or A3 or better by Moody's, Inc., or an equivalent investment grade by a securities ratings organization accepted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; and, provided further that the total investment in such foreign securities at any one time shall not exceed five percent of the market value of all investments held by the treasurer in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, or any other fund or investment of funds subject to this investment authority.

(x) Any investment managers hired on a contract basis to advise the treasurer regarding such investments shall be selected by the treasurer, subject to the approval

of the State Bond Commission, in accordance with a request for proposal process using strict selection criteria based on sound industry principles. The contract, as approved by the State Bond Commission, shall be on a fee, together with minimum exchange fee, basis or on a commission basis only. The state treasurer shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for such investments and for the selection of outside investment managers.

(xi) Open-end mutual funds, closed-end mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and unit investment trusts consisting solely of international securities constructed to match or track the components of a market index provided by globally recognized index providers, including but not limited to MSCI, FTSE, Dow Jones, Standard & Poor's, Barclays, Citigroup, or any of their affiliates or successors and assigns; however, the total investment in any and all such index funds at any one time shall not exceed ten percent of the market value of all funds held by the treasurer in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund. Nothing in this Item shall be construed to allow the state treasurer to invest directly in the common stock of foreign companies known to do business with nations that support terrorism.

* * *

E.(1) In addition to all other investment authority granted for the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, and notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the state treasurer may enter into direct security repurchase agreements, reverse security repurchase agreements, and securities lending contracts in order to generate passive income.

(2) For the purposes of this Subsection, the terms "direct security repurchase agreement" and "reverse security repurchase agreement" shall have the same meaning as in R.S. 49:327(B) and the term "securities lending" shall have the same meaning as in R.S. 49:321.1.

Section 3. R.S. 40:1669(J) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §1669. Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Program

1	J. The provisions of this Section shall terminate on July 1, 2025 <u>2027</u> . Upon
2	termination of the program, the treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to transfer
3	any unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund to the state general fund.
4	Section 4. R.S. 17:3801(B), (C)(4) and (F) and R.S. 39:98.3(E) are hereby repealed
5	in their entirety.
6	Section 5. Chapter 35 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
7	comprised of R.S. 17:3801 through 3805 and R.S. 39:98.3(C) and 100.116(A)(9) are hereby
8	repealed in their entirety.
9	Section 6.(A) Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 46:2691(C)(2) and R.S.
10	56:797(C) and 798(B)(1), among other investments permitted by law, the state treasurer is
11	authorized to invest monies in the Medicaid Trust Fund for the Elderly, Rockefeller Wildlife
12	Refuge Trust and Protection Fund, and the Russell Sage or Marsh Island Refuge Fund in
13	investments permitted for the Millennium Trust. The Louisiana State Law Institute is
14	authorized and directed to change references in these provisions of law to reflect the
15	authorization in this Section.
16	(B) The Louisiana State Law Institute is further authorized and directed to change
17	the citations to R.S. 17:3803(B) contained in R.S. 49:321.1 to R.S. 39:98.2.
18	Section 7. The provisions of Section 5 of this Act shall take effect and become
19	operative on July 1, 2026, if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the
20	Constitution of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. 473 of
21	this 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes
22	effective.
23	Section 8. The provisions of Sections 1, 2, 4, and 6 of this Act shall take effect and
24	become operative if and when the proposed amendment of Article VII of the Constitution
25	of Louisiana contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. 473 of this 2025
26	Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.
27	Section 9. This Section and Sections 3, 7, and 8 of this Act shall become effective
28	upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time
29	for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section
	D 10 - £20

1	18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved
2	by the legislature, the provisions of this Section and Sections 3, 7, and 8 shall become
3	effective on the day following such approval.
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

ENROLLED

HB NO. 579

APPROVED: _____