

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 959

BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT

APPROPRIATIONS/JUDGMENT: Appropriates funds for payment of the consent judgment against the state in the suit captioned Gaetano J. Montana v. Eagle, Inc., et al

1 AN ACT  
2 Relative to the appropriation of monies out of the state general fund to be used to pay the  
3 consent judgment captioned "Gaetano J. Montana. versus Eagle, Inc., et al" between  
4 the state of Louisiana, through the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State  
5 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College through Louisiana State  
6 University Health Sciences Center, University Hospital, and Gaetano J. Montana, Jr.,  
7 Angele Montana, and Yvette Montana, individually and on behalf of decedent  
8 Gaetano J. Montana; to provide for an effective date, and to provide for related  
9 matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. The sum of Fifty Thousand and No/100 (\$50,000.00) Dollars is hereby  
12 payable out of the State General Fund (Direct) for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for payment of the  
13 consent judgment captioned "Gaetano J. Montana. versus Eagle, Inc., et al", signed on  
14 October 1, 2025, between the state of Louisiana through the Board of Supervisors of the  
15 Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College through Louisiana State  
16 University Health Sciences Center, University Hospital, and Gaetano J. Montana, Jr., Angele  
17 Montana, and Yvette Montana, individually and on behalf of decedent, Gaetano J. Montana,  
18 bearing Number 2023-06713, Division "D", on the docket of the Civil District Court, parish  
19 of Orleans, state of Louisiana.

1           Section 2. A judgment may only be paid from this appropriation if it is final and shall  
2 be paid as to principal, court costs, and expert witness fees as awarded in the judgment.  
3 Interest shall be paid as provided by law and awarded in the judgment. If the provisions of  
4 the judgment conflict with the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the judgment shall  
5 be controlling. Any other provision of this Act not in conflict with the provisions of the  
6 judgment shall control. Payment shall be made only after presentation to the state treasurer  
7 of documentation required by the state treasurer. Further, the judgment shall be deemed to  
8 have been paid on the effective date of this Act, and interest shall cease to run as of that date.

9           Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
10 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
11 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
12 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
13 effective on the day following such approval.

---

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 959 Original

2026 Regular Session

Berault

Appropriates \$50,000 out of the State General Fund (Direct) for FY 2025-2026 for payment of the consent judgment against the state in the suit captioned Gaetano J. Montana v. Eagle, Inc., et al., bearing No. 2023-06713, Division D, on the docket of the Civil District Court, parish of Orleans.

Proposed law provides relative to payment. Provides relative to conflicts between judgment and proposed law. Prohibits accrual of interest on the judgment as of the effective date of proposed law.

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