
DIGEST

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Morris

HB No. 292

Abstract: Provides for the Environmental Education Commission and the litter abatement and education account in the Conservation Fund.

Present law provides for the Environmental Education Commission in the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, provides for the commission's powers and duties, and creates the office of environmental education within the office of wildlife, Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Proposed law retains present law except repeals the office of environmental education.

Present law provides for a \$1 fee on the fee charged for driver's licenses to be deposited into the La. Environmental Education Fund and to be used for public service announcements and for the education and training of drivers of motor vehicles regarding littering or to finance local littering enforcement activities until Aug. 15, 2011.

Present law creates a prestige motor vehicle environmental education license plate for the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries. Revenues received from the donations from the plates are deposited into the La. Environmental Education Fund to be used for the purposes of the Environmental Education Commission.

Proposed law repeals La. Environmental Education Fund and replaces the fund with the "litter abatement and education account" within the Conservation Fund.

Proposed law retains present law except the funds from both sources, along with any public or private donations, shall be deposited into the "litter abatement and education account" within the Conservation Fund, and repeals driver's license fee sunset date.

Proposed law provides that funds in the account shall be used solely for litter abatement and enforcement; public service announcements; develop, review, and approve a plan for statewide environmental education and training of operators of vehicles regarding littering; to finance local littering enforcement activities in order to promote public safety, order, and general welfare by making the streets, roads, rivers, streams, bayous, lakes, waterways, and highways of La. clean, safe, and free of debris, litter, and other material falling from or being thrown from vehicles; and to award grants to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for the development, dissemination, and assessment of such education programs.

Act No. 9 of the 2011 First Extraordinary Session amended various provisions of R.S. 32:412, of which are being repealed by the proposed law.

Effective July 1, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 30:2506(A)(intro. para.) and (B) and 2507(A), R.S. 32:412(A)(1), (2), (5), and (6), (B)(1), (2), and (7)(e)(i)(aa), (cc), (dd)(I), and (ee) and (ii)(aa), (cc), (dd)(I), and (ee), R.S. 36:605(B)(4)(a), and R.S. 47:463.43(A),(D), and (E); Adds R.S. 56:10(B)(14); Repeals R.S. 30:2504 and 2511, R.S. 36:609(B)(4), §3 of Act No. 527 of the 2003 R.S., Act No. 363 of the 2004 R.S., Act No.190 of the 2007 R.S., and R.S. 32:412(A)(1), (2), (5), (6), (B)(1), (2), (7)(e)(i)(aa), (dd)(I), (e)(ii)(aa), and (dd)(I) as amended by Act No. 9 of the 2011 1st E.S.)