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## DIGEST

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Girod Jackson

HB No. 206

**Abstract:** Removes certain restrictions relative to contracting with and employment of immediate family members by hospital service districts and hospital public trust authorities.

Present law (ethics code – R.S. 42:1119), relative to nepotism, prohibits employment of an immediate family member of a member of the governing authority or the chief executive of a governmental entity by the governmental entity. Provides an exception for any hospital service district with a population of 100,000 persons or less or hospital public trust authority located in such a district. Such a district or authority may enter into an initial recruiting contract with or employ as a health care provider, a licensed physician, a registered nurse, or an allied health professional who is a member of the immediate family of any district board, authority, or parish governing authority member or of the chief executive of the district or authority if such family member is the only qualified applicant who has applied for the position after it has been advertised as provided by present law.

Proposed law removes the population limit on this exception. Provides that the immediate family member be a qualified applicant, not the only qualified applicant. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law, retained by proposed law, further provides for recusal. Requires the filing of a disclosure statement with the Board of Ethics stating the facts of such employment.

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

(Amends R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(b)(i))