

---

The original instrument was prepared by Michelle Ducharme. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Cathy R. Wells.

---

## DIGEST

Morrell (SB 265)

Proposed law authorizes the state fire marshal to condemn any building or structure when such building or structure is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition that endangers the public welfare.

Proposed law requires the state fire marshal to prepare a written report recommending the condemnation of the building or structure and to serve notice to the owner of such property, along with the written report and a requirement for the owner to publish an announcement listing why such building or structure is blighted and the date when such building will be repaired and no longer considered dangerous to the public. Proposed law provides the procedure for serving notice to the owner.

Proposed law requires such announcement to be published, without cost to the parish or municipality, in the official journal of the parish or municipality where the property is located on two separate days within 60 days of receipt of the notice and written report by the state fire marshal.

Proposed law subjects the owner to a \$50 per day penalty, not to exceed \$5000 per property for failure to publish the required announcement.

Present law creates the Louisiana Blighted Property Reclamation Revolving Loan Fund and allows any parish or municipality to obtain funding from the fund for the purposes of maintenance, repair, removal, or demolition of dangerous structures pursuant to the law governing the removal of dangerous structures in the parishes and municipalities.

Proposed law requires that any penalties collected be remitted by the parish or municipality to the Louisiana Blighted Property Reclamation Revolving Loan Fund as provided for in present law.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Adds R.S. 40:1563(L), 1651, and 1652)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Removes provisions of proposed law relative to the authority of the state fire marshal to demolish, remove, or repair any dilapidated and dangerous building or structure.
2. Removes provisions of proposed law relative to certain notice to owners, hearings, and notices filed with the recorder of mortgages on the demolition or removal of any dilapidated and dangerous building or structure.
3. Removes provisions of proposed law relative to liens and privileges for costs of demolitions and removal of buildings.
4. Adds provisions requiring an owner to publish an announcement on such blighted property.
5. Adds civil penalties for failure of owners of such blighted property to publish the required announcement and for the disposition of any fines collected.