

Regular Session, 2012  
HOUSE BILL NO. 923  
BY REPRESENTATIVE PONTI

# ACT No. 605

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3552, 3553, 3554(A), (B), (D), (E), and (F), 3555, 3556, 3557, 3558(A), (B), and (D), 3559, 3561, 3563, 3564, 3565, and 3566(B) and (C), to enact R.S. 37:3556.1, and to repeal R.S. 37:3560, relative to massage therapy; to provide for definitions; to provide for applicability of the Louisiana Massage Therapists and Massage Establishment Act; to provide for exemptions; to provide for the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy; to provide for membership of the board; to provide for the powers and duties of the board; to require licensure for persons performing massage therapy; to provide for licensure for massage establishments; to establish licensure requirements; to provide for an examination; to provide for licensing regulations; to provide for the expiration and renewal of licenses; to provide for inactive status; to provide for disciplinary actions; to regulate advertising as a massage therapist or a massage establishment; to provide for penalties; to provide for injunctions; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:3552, 3553, 3554(A), (B), (D), (E), and (F), 3555, 3556, 3557, 3558(A), (B), and (D), 3559, 3561, 3563, 3564, 3565, and 3566(B) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3552. Definitions

As used in this Chapter:

(1) "Advertise" or "advertising" means to publish, display, or disseminate promotional information and includes but is not limited to the issuance of any card, sign, or direct mail, or in any newspaper, magazine, publication, or any

1 announcement or display via any televised, computerized, electronic, or telephone  
 2 networks, magnetic signs, or media. "Advertise" shall not include the following:

3 (a) Telephone directory information including white pages, yellow pages,  
 4 and any Internet publication made by the phone directory company in which one is  
 5 listed.

6 (b) Building signs identifying the location, unless the building sign contains  
 7 promotional material.

8 (2) "Board" means the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy.

9 ~~(2)~~ (3) "Department" means the Department of Health and Hospitals.

10 (4) "Inactive status" means the status in which a licensed massage therapist  
 11 has, pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, notified the board of intent to  
 12 voluntarily cease activity as a massage therapist for a period of time not to exceed  
 13 five years.

14 (5) "Lapsed license" means a board-issued license which has not been  
 15 renewed for a period of more than two years and the holder of the license has not  
 16 taken inactive status.

17 (6) "Licensee" means any person or business that has a professional or  
 18 establishment license issued by the board.

19 ~~(3)~~ (7) "Massage establishment" means any place of business in which  
 20 massage therapy is practiced by a massage therapist that offers the practice of  
 21 massage therapy and where the practice of massage therapy is conducted on the  
 22 premises of the business. A place of business includes any office, clinic, facility, or  
 23 other location where a person or persons engage in the practice of massage therapy.  
 24 The residence of a therapist or an out call location which is not owned, rented, or  
 25 leased by a massage therapist or massage establishment shall not be considered a  
 26 massage establishment, unless the location is advertised as the therapist's or  
 27 establishment's place of business. The term "massage establishment" shall not  
 28 include physician offices, physical therapy facilities, chiropractic offices, or athletic  
 29 training facilities, whether or not they employ, contract with, or rent to massage

1 therapists, or institutions of secondary or higher education when massage therapy is  
 2 practiced in connection with employment related to athletic teams.

3 ~~(4)~~ (8) "Massage therapist" means ~~an individual who practices or administers~~  
 4 ~~massage therapy to a patron of either gender for compensation. The term shall~~  
 5 ~~include a therapeutic massage practitioner, massage technician, masseur, masseuse,~~  
 6 ~~or any derivation of those titles~~ a person who engages in the practice of massage  
 7 therapy for compensation.

8 (9) "Person" means an individual, corporation, association, or other legal  
 9 entity.

10 ~~(5)~~ (10) "Massage Practice of massage therapy" means the manipulation of  
 11 soft tissue for the purpose of maintaining good health and establishing and  
 12 maintaining good physical condition. The practice of massage therapy shall include  
 13 advertising or offering to engage in the practice of massage therapy and holding  
 14 oneself out or designating oneself to the public as a massage therapist or massage  
 15 establishment. The ~~term~~ practice of massage therapy shall include effleurage  
 16 (stroking), petrissage (kneading), tapotement (percussion), compression, vibration,  
 17 friction; (active/passive range of motion), stretching activities as they pertain to  
 18 massage therapy, Shiatsu, and acupressure, reflexology, and Swedish massage either  
 19 by hand, forearm, elbow, foot, or with mechanical appliances for the purpose of body  
 20 massage. Massage therapy may include the use of lubricants such as salts, powders,  
 21 liquids, creams; ~~(with the exception of prescriptive or medicinal creams)~~, heat lamps,  
 22 hot and cold stones, whirlpool, hot and cold pack packs, salt glow, body wraps, or  
 23 steam cabinet baths. It shall not include electrotherapy, laser therapy, microwave,  
 24 colonic therapy, injection therapy, or manipulation of the joints. Equivalent terms  
 25 for massage therapy are massage, therapeutic massage, massage technology, ~~Shiatsu,~~  
 26 body work, or any derivation of those terms. As used in this Chapter, the terms  
 27 "therapy" and "therapeutic" shall not include diagnosis, the treatment of illness or  
 28 disease, or any service or procedure for which a license to practice medicine,  
 29 chiropractic, physical therapy, or podiatry is required by law.

1           ~~(6) "Massage therapy instructor" means an individual who is licensed as a~~  
2           ~~massage therapist, who possesses credentials satisfactory to the board and who meets~~  
3           ~~criteria established by the board pursuant to rule.~~

4           ~~(7) "Person" means an individual, corporation, association, or other legal~~  
5           ~~entity.~~

6           (11) "Professional Massage Therapy Association" means a statewide  
7           organization or statewide chapter of an organization which meets all of the following  
8           criteria:

9           (a) Either directly, or through the parent organization, qualifies as a tax  
10           exempt nonprofit organization under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(6).

11           (b) Within Louisiana, offers a voting membership to licensed massage  
12           therapists who practice or reside in Louisiana and who maintain their voting  
13           membership in good standing.

14           (c) Within Louisiana, is administered by a governing body composed of  
15           officers democratically elected by the organization's voting membership within  
16           Louisiana.

17           (12) "Writing" shall be a written communication transmitted either by United  
18           States mail or by electronic means such as e-mail.

19           §3553. Application of Chapter; exceptions and exemptions

20           A. This Chapter shall apply to any person ~~practicing as a massage therapist~~  
21           ~~or massage establishment engaging in the practice of massage therapy within the~~  
22           ~~state of Louisiana.~~

23           B.(1) This Chapter shall not apply to any services performed in hospitals  
24           licensed by the state.

25           (2) This Chapter shall also not apply to any of the following:

26           (a) Persons who are licensed, registered, or certified in another state,  
27           territory, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country when incidentally present in  
28           the state to teach a course of instruction related to massage and bodywork therapy  
29           as a continuing education course.

1                   **(b) Persons giving massage and bodywork to their immediate family without**  
 2                   **compensation.**

3                   **(c) Persons incidentally present in the state to provide services as part of an**  
 4                   **emergency response team working in conjunction with relief officials during a**  
 5                   **disaster, provided such persons are properly licensed in the state from which they**  
 6                   **originate.**

7                   **C.** Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as preventing or restricting the  
 8                   practice ~~or activities~~ of any person licensed or certified in this state under any other  
 9                   law from engaging in the profession or occupation for which he is licensed or  
 10                   certified. ~~However, no person shall in any way hold himself out or designate himself~~  
 11                   ~~as a massage therapist unless duly licensed by the board in accordance with this~~  
 12                   Chapter.

13                   §3554. Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy; creation, membership, qualifications,  
 14                   terms, vacancies, officers, meetings, reimbursement, liability

15                   A.(1) ~~There is hereby created the~~ The Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy  
 16                   is hereby created within the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. It shall  
 17                   be composed of seven members appointed by the governor. ~~Five licensed massage~~  
 18                   ~~therapists of the members~~ shall be appointed from a list of nominees submitted to the  
 19                   governor by professional massage therapy and bodywork associations. From the list  
 20                   of association nominees, three of the persons appointed shall be licensed massage  
 21                   therapists. Two lay members shall be appointed from a the list of nominees,  
 22                   ~~submitted to the governor by professional massage therapy associations.~~ both of  
 23                   whom shall be consumers who have never been nor are currently a licensed massage  
 24                   therapist in the state. Two additional licensed massage therapists shall be appointed  
 25                   to the board from a general list of names which are submitted for consideration by  
 26                   other interested sources or individuals.

27                   (2) ~~The~~ All massage therapists ~~initially~~ appointed to the board ~~from~~  
 28                   ~~nominations submitted to by~~ the governor ~~by professional massage therapy~~  
 29                   ~~associations~~ shall be ~~qualified to be~~ licensed and in good standing under this Chapter.  
 30                   The appointees shall have practiced massage therapy for at least three years, ~~and~~

1           ~~shall be required to obtain a license within one hundred eighty days after~~  
2           ~~appointment to the board; thereafter, massage therapists appointed to the board shall~~  
3           ~~be licensed as massage therapists under this Chapter and shall have been in practice~~  
4           ~~for a minimum of three years.~~

5                   ~~(3) The initial members of the board shall be appointed by the governor not~~  
6           ~~later than October 1, 1992.~~

7                   B. ~~Except as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, All~~ members of  
8           the board shall serve two-year terms. ~~However, no~~ No member shall serve more than  
9           three consecutive terms. ~~Board~~ For the purposes of staggering the board member  
10          terms, ~~are to be staggered as follows:~~

11                   ~~(1) The~~ the governor shall appoint to the board three massage therapists and  
12          one lay person each to a term of one year beginning October 1, 2002. ~~Thereafter,~~  
13          member in odd odd-numbered years ~~the governor shall appoint three massage~~  
14          ~~therapists and one lay person to the board.~~

15                   ~~(2) In even years the governor shall appoint~~ and two massage therapists and  
16          one lay person ~~to the board~~ member in even-numbered years.

17   \*       \*       \*

18                   D. The board ~~shall hold its first meeting within thirty days after October 1,~~  
19          ~~1992, and shall meet at least twice each year thereafter.~~ Additional board meetings  
20          may be held at the call of the chairman or upon the written request of any three  
21          members of the board.

22                   E. ~~The~~ Each year, the board shall ~~annually~~ elect a chairman, vice chairman,  
23          secretary, and treasurer from its membership and shall maintain records of the  
24          attendance of its members at board meetings.

25                   F. Each member of the board shall serve with compensation, not to exceed  
26          fifty dollars per day, ~~and~~ consisting of at least three hours of board business,  
27          including travel time. Board members shall be reimbursed for travel and related

1 expenses incurred, not to exceed those expenses authorized for reimbursement by the  
2 Department of Health and Hospitals, for each day that the member engages in board  
3 business.

4 \* \* \*

5 §3555. Powers and duties of the board

6 A. The board shall:

7 (1) ~~Prescribe application forms for examination, licensure, and registration~~  
8 ~~and assess and collect fees pursuant to R.S. 37:3562.~~ Regulate the practice of  
9 massage and bodywork in Louisiana by licensing massage therapists who meet the  
10 state's minimum standards of education. Among its functions, the board promulgates  
11 rules and regulations, issues and renews professional and establishment licenses,  
12 collects and assesses fees pursuant to R.S. 37:3562, inspects, investigates, and  
13 disciplines licensees, including both individuals and establishments, who violate the  
14 law, and imposes fines and penalties.

15 (2) Perform inspections and investigate persons who may be engaging in  
16 practices which violate provisions of this Chapter and impose fines and penalties.

17 (3) Maintain a complete record going back for a period of at least five years  
18 of all licensed massage therapists and annually prepare a roster of the names and  
19 addresses of all such licensees. A copy of this roster shall be made available to any  
20 person requesting it, upon payment of a fee set by the board in an amount sufficient  
21 to cover the costs of its publication and distribution.

22 (3) ~~Investigate persons who may be engaging in practices which violate~~  
23 ~~provisions of this Chapter and impose fines and penalties.~~

24 (4) Adopt and revise rules and regulations pursuant to the Administrative  
25 Procedure Act for the purpose of administering the provisions of this Chapter. ~~Such~~  
26 ~~rules and regulations shall include rules relating to the definition of unprofessional~~  
27 ~~conduct, as that term is further defined in R.S. 37:3563(A)(3).~~

28 (5) Issue declaratory rulings interpreting the scope of practice of massage  
29 therapy, as that term is further defined in ~~R.S. 37:3552(5)~~ R.S. 37:3552(10).

1                   ~~(6) Have all other powers necessary and proper for the performance of its~~  
2                   ~~duties.~~

3                   B. The board may:

4                   (1) Accept or deny entrance of any applicant applying for licensure ~~or~~  
5                   ~~registration.~~

6                   (2) Establish continuing education requirements for license renewal ~~and~~  
7                   ~~criteria for certifying massage therapy instructors.~~

8                   §3556. Licensure; qualifications

9                   A.~~(1)~~ No person shall ~~act as or perform the duties of a massage therapist~~  
10                  ~~unless he possesses~~ engage in the practice of massage therapy without a current  
11                  license issued pursuant to this Chapter ~~or is~~ unless such person is exempt under the  
12                  provisions of this Chapter. To receive a massage therapist license in the state of  
13                  Louisiana, an applicant shall pay the application fee pursuant to R.S. 37:3562 and  
14                  shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board of meeting the following  
15                  requirements:

16                  (1)(a) Has satisfactorily completed a minimum five hundred hour in-class  
17                  supervised course of studies pursuant to rules promulgated by the board in  
18                  accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

19                  (b) A course of study may utilize a credit hours equivalent as defined by the  
20                  United States Department of Education in lieu of clock hours to measure student  
21                  achievement. A course of study using credit hours shall provide coursework  
22                  consistent with the rules promulgated by the board including at least five hundred  
23                  hours of in-class supervised instruction.

24                  (2) Has passed a national examination approved by the board under R.S.  
25                  37:3557 within two years from the date the application is filed.

26                  (3) Is a citizen or legal resident of the United States and has the ability to  
27                  read, write, speak, and understand English fluently.

28                  (4) Has not, within the five years preceding the date of the application, been  
29                  convicted of a nonviolent felony.

1                   (5) Has never been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a violent felony  
2                   or a criminal offense involving sexual misconduct.

3                   (6) Has submitted to and cleared a background check.

4                   ~~(2) A licensed massage therapist shall not perform massage therapy, whether~~  
5                   ~~or not for compensation, at or for a sexually oriented business, as defined in R.S.~~  
6                   ~~37:3558(D).~~

7                   ~~(3) A licensed massage therapist shall not be directly employed by a person~~  
8                   ~~licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy pursuant to R.S. 37:1261 et seq.~~

9                   B. ~~A person desiring to be licensed as a massage therapist shall apply to the~~  
10                  ~~board to take the examination provided for in R.S. 37:3557. To be eligible to take~~  
11                  ~~the examination, an applicant shall pay the examination fee, except as otherwise~~  
12                  ~~provided in R.S. 37:3562(B), and shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board that~~  
13                  ~~he has met one of the following requirements:~~

14                  ~~(1) Has satisfactorily completed massage therapy studies in a minimum five~~  
15                  ~~hundred-hour supervised course of instruction. The course of instruction may be~~  
16                  ~~provided by a proprietary massage therapy school licensed by the state Department~~  
17                  ~~of Education. The minimum five hundred hours shall consist of three hundred~~  
18                  ~~twenty-five hours dedicated to the study of basic massage therapy techniques and~~  
19                  ~~clinical practicum-related modalities, one hundred twenty-five hours dedicated to the~~  
20                  ~~study of anatomy and physiology, and an additional fifty hours of discretionary~~  
21                  ~~related course work, including but not limited to hydrotherapy, business practices~~  
22                  ~~and professional ethics, health and hygiene, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation~~  
23                  ~~(CPR) and first aid.~~

24                  ~~(2) Has been in the practice of massage therapy for a minimum of three~~  
25                  ~~consecutive years prior to the date of application, provided that no person shall~~  
26                  ~~qualify to take the examination pursuant to the provisions of this Paragraph after~~  
27                  ~~March 1, 1998.~~

28                  ~~(3) Holds a valid license as a physical therapist pursuant to R.S. 37:2401 et~~  
29                  ~~seq.~~

1           ~~(4) Has been licensed or registered as a massage therapist in another state,~~  
 2           ~~territory, commonwealth, or the District of Columbia which has and maintains~~  
 3           ~~standards and requirements of practice and licensure or registration which~~  
 4           ~~substantially conform to the requirements in force in this state, as determined by the~~  
 5           ~~board.~~

6           The requirements set forth in R.S. 37:3556(A)(1) and (2) shall not apply to  
 7           either of the following:

8           (1) Persons who have continuously held a license to engage in the practice  
 9           of massage therapy issued by the board since March 1, 1998.

10          (2) Persons who hold a valid, current, and unexpired license or registration  
 11          to engage in the practice of massage therapy in another state, territory,  
 12          commonwealth, or the District of Columbia that has and maintains standards and  
 13          requirements of practice and licensure or registration that substantially conform to  
 14          the requirements in force in this state, as determined by the board.

15          C. After review of the evidence submitted, the board shall notify each  
 16          applicant that his application and such evidence is ~~either satisfactory and accepted~~  
 17          or ~~unsatisfactory and~~ rejected. If an application is rejected, such notice shall state  
 18          the reasons for the rejection.

19          D. The board shall issue a license to each person who meets the  
 20          qualifications provided for in this Section upon payment of the professional license  
 21          fee provided pursuant to R.S. 37:3562. The license, in the form of a Licensed  
 22          Massage Therapist Identification Card (LMT-ID Card), grants all professional rights,  
 23          honors, and privileges to the licensed massage therapist.

24          E. Each license granted shall have a validity period of one calendar year and  
 25          shall have an expiration date as determined by administrative rules promulgated by  
 26          the board.

27          §3557. Examination

28          A. Examination of applicants to be massage therapists shall be conducted at  
 29          such times and places and under such supervision as the board determines by rule,;  
 30          ~~however, examinations shall be conducted at least twice in each calendar year. The~~

1 board shall give public notice and shall notify each person who has made satisfactory  
2 application for examination of the date, time, and place of examination.

3 B. The board shall determine by rule the scope, form, and content of the  
4 examination, ~~which shall consist of both a written examination to test knowledge of~~  
5 ~~anatomy and physiology and a practical demonstration or oral interview to verify~~  
6 ~~skills necessary for the practice of massage therapy.~~

7 C. ~~An applicant shall successfully pass the examination in order to be~~  
8 ~~eligible for licensure as a massage therapist. The board shall notify each applicant~~  
9 ~~of the results of the examination in writing. Any applicant who fails to pass the~~  
10 ~~examination and is, therefore, refused licensure may take the examination again upon~~  
11 ~~application and payment of an additional examination fee. No applicant shall be~~  
12 ~~allowed to take the examination more than twice within a two-year period.~~

13 §3558. ~~Registration of massage~~ Massage establishments

14 A. ~~A massage establishment shall register with the board as provided in the~~  
15 ~~following:~~

16 (1) ~~For physical addresses where only one massage therapist is practicing:~~

17 (a) ~~The professional massage license shall act as a registration certificate for~~  
18 ~~the establishment;~~

19 (b) ~~Separate professional licenses will be issued for each physical address~~  
20 ~~listed on the license application form or renewal application form; and~~

21 (c) ~~The professional license will cover all outcalls made from that physical~~  
22 ~~address by the licensee.~~

23 (2) ~~For physical addresses where more than one massage therapist is~~  
24 ~~practicing:~~

25 (a) ~~A separate massage establishment registration certificate is required;~~

26 (b) ~~The responsibility for obtaining a massage establishment registration~~  
27 ~~certificate shall belong to one of the following entities as it applies to the physical~~  
28 ~~location: sole proprietor, lessee, owner, partnership, corporation, cooperative,~~  
29 ~~association, or other legal entity; and~~









1            C. The board shall revoke the license of any person who is convicted of,  
 2            enters a plea of nolo contendere to, or receives deferred adjudication ~~to a crime or~~  
 3            ~~offense involving~~ in connection with any criminal offense involving sexual  
 4            misconduct or prostitution or other sexual offenses.

5            ~~E.~~ D. Any person who has been convicted of, entered a plea of nolo  
 6            contendere to, or received deferred adjudication ~~to crimes or offenses involving in~~  
 7            connection with any criminal offense involving sexual misconduct or prostitution or  
 8            ~~sexual offenses~~ shall be ineligible for ~~registration~~ licensure as an owner or operator  
 9            of a massage establishment. The board shall revoke the ~~registration~~ license of any  
 10           person if the board determines that the establishment is a sexually oriented business,  
 11           as defined in ~~R.S. 37:3558(D); R.S. 37:3558(C),~~ or that a crime or offense involving  
 12           prostitution or other sexual offenses and resulting in a conviction, to which a plea of  
 13           nolo contendere was entered; or deferred adjudication was received, has occurred on  
 14           the premises of the establishment since the date of the most recent license renewal,  
 15           ~~of the registration certificate.~~

16           §3564. Regulation of advertising

17           A. A person ~~who~~ or an entity that does not hold a license as a massage  
 18           therapist, physical therapist, or chiropractor, ~~or athletic trainer or~~ a certificate of  
 19           ~~registration to practice athletic training,~~ or a license as a massage establishment shall  
 20           not use the words "massage", "shiatsu", ~~or "body work",~~ or any derivative or  
 21           variation of the word "massage", including specific bodywork or massage modalities,  
 22           on any sign or other form of advertising. Any advertisement by a massage therapist  
 23           or a massage establishment shall contain the license ~~or registration~~ number of such  
 24           therapist or establishment. Building signs with promotional material shall also  
 25           include the professional or establishment number.

26           B. ~~Under no circumstances shall a~~ No sexually oriented business, as defined  
 27           in ~~R.S. 37:3558(D); R.S. 37:3558(C),~~ shall use the word "massage", "shiatsu", ~~or~~  
 28           "body work", or any derivative or variation of the word "massage", including  
 29           specific bodywork or massage modalities, on any sign or other form of advertising.



1 §3565. Penalties

2 A. ~~Any~~ Violation of the provisions of this Chapter shall be considered a  
3 misdemeanor and any person, including the owner or operator of a massage  
4 establishment, ~~who violates the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a~~  
5 ~~misdemeanor and~~, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than one hundred nor  
6 more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

7 B. A person convicted of a violation of the provisions of this Chapter shall  
8 additionally be ineligible for licensure as a massage therapist or ~~registration~~ as a  
9 massage establishment for a period of up to five years from the date of conviction.

10 §3566. Injunction

11 \* \* \*

12 B. In the suit for an injunction, the ~~board may demand of the defendant~~ court  
13 may impose a penalty of fifty dollars per day for each violation, together with  
14 reasonable attorney fees; and the costs of court.

15 C. ~~The judgment for penalty,~~ An award of penalties, attorney fees, and court  
16 costs may be rendered in the same judgment in which the injunction is made  
17 absolute. ~~If the board brings an action against someone pursuant hereto and fails to~~  
18 ~~prove its case, then it shall be liable to such person for the payment of his attorney~~  
19 ~~fees and costs.~~ If the board is unsuccessful in obtaining injunctive relief, the court  
20 may award attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party.

21 Section 2. R.S. 37:3556.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

22 §3556.1. Course of study; hours

23 A. Pursuant to the licensure requirements provided in R.S. 37:3556, a course  
24 of study may utilize a credit hours equivalent as defined by the United States  
25 Department of Education in lieu of clock hours to measure student achievement. A  
26 course of study using credit hours shall provide course work consistent with the rules  
27 promulgated by the board including at least five hundred hours of in-class supervised  
28 instruction.

29 B. The provisions of this Section shall terminate on January 1, 2013.

30 Section 3. R.S. 37:3560 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

1           Section 4. The provisions of Sections 1 and 3 of this Act shall become effective on  
2 January 1, 2013.

3           Section 5. The provisions of Section 2 of this Act shall become effective upon  
4 signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for  
5 bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section  
6 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved  
7 by the legislature, this Section 2 of this Act shall become effective on the day following such  
8 approval.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_