CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT House Bill No. 221 By Representative Connick

June 4, 2013

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 221 by Representative Connick, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

- 1. That the set of Senate Committee Amendments proposed by the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs and adopted by the Senate on May 23, 2013, be rejected.
- 2. That the set of amendments proposed by the Legislative Bureau and adopted by the Senate on May 27, 2013, be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,	
Representative Patrick Connick	Senator Edwin R. Murray
Representative Timothy G. Burns	Senator "Jody" Amedee
Representative Edward "Ted" James	Senator David Heitmeier

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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

House Bill No. 221 by Representative Connick

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

ETHICS/DUAL EMPLOYMENT: Authorizes certain dual employment and dual officeholding for certain health care providers or researchers

Report does not adopt any Senate amendments.

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Added provisions increasing from \$3,000 to \$5,000 the amount allowed, pursuant to the ethics code, to be accepted by certain public servants each year through a loan repayment assistance program and to be credited against qualified student loan debt.

Report does not propose amendments to the bill.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee:

<u>Present law</u> regulates dual officeholding and dual employment in order to prevent conflicts of interest and to promote and maintain citizen trust in government. Prohibits certain specific combinations of public office and employment, including a prohibition against a person holding at the same time office or employment in state government and office or employment in the U.S. government. Provides exceptions to this prohibition. Allows an employee of the U.S. government to hold an appointive office in a political subdivision or serve as an elected member of a school board, unless the particular combination of duties is adverse to the public interest as set forth in <u>present law</u>. Allows a part-time elected official, as that term is defined in <u>present law</u>, to hold employment with the U.S. government while serving in his part-time elective office, unless the particular combination of duties is adverse to the public interest.

<u>Present law</u> additionally prohibits a person from holding a combination of offices and employments that are determined to be incompatible because of the existence of certain conditions set forth in <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides an exception to <u>present law</u> to allow a member of the faculty or staff of a public higher education institution to also hold an appointive office or employment in the U.S. government in a health care facility as a health care provider or researcher.

(Adds R.S. 42:66(O))