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## DIGEST

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Schexnayder

HB No. 1013

**Abstract:** Provides for the abolition of certain boards, commissions, authorities, and like entities; in some cases also abolishes the functions and responsibilities of the entity; in other cases provides that a different entity is responsible for the functions and responsibilities of the abolished entity.

Proposed law provides for the abolition of certain boards, commissions, authorities, and like entities; in some cases also abolishes the functions and responsibilities of the entity; in other cases provides that some other person or entity is responsible for the functions and responsibilities of the abolished entity, all as follows:

Ambulance Service District Commission: Present law provides for a statewide ambulance service district to enhance reimbursement and financial stability of ambulance providers. Provides that the commission governs the district. Proposed law repeals present law.

Broadband Advisory Council: Present law creates the council is to serve as the central broadband planning body for the state and to communicate and coordinate with state, regional, and local agencies and private entities in order to develop a coordinated statewide broadband access and usage policy, consistent with homeland security and emergency response needs, policies, and systems. Proposed law abolishes the council and its functions and repeals present law.

Catfish Promotion and Research Board: Present law creates the catfish promotion and research program to provide a voluntary method of raising revenues to be used for the purposes of developing markets for La. catfish and for funding research and educational activities for the La. catfish industry. Provides for assessments levied upon a majority vote of catfish farmers. Authorizes the board to adopt rules and regulations. Provides that the board directs the conducting of referenda and notifies the catfish farmers of the results. Authorizes the board to impose a civil penalty for failure to collect and remit assessments after a hearing and to institute civil proceedings to enforce its rulings. Proposed law abolishes the board and transfers its functions to the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

Coastal Land Stewardship Authority Board of Directors: Present law creates the authority to provide for management and administration of certain immovable properties, servitudes, and easements acquired by the state in connection with the development, design, and implementation of coastal conservation, restoration, and protection plans and projects in a

manner determined appropriate by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and consistent with any agreements entered into between the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the federal government. Provides that the authority is administered by a board of directors. Proposed law abolishes the authority and the board and their functions.

Historic Cemetery Trust Fund Advisory Board: Present law creates the board to determine the need for an inventory of historic cemeteries and isolated graves to be regulated by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and to maintain any such inventory, to adopt such rules, regulations, standards, and grant application procedures necessary to implement the funding provisions of present law (La. Historic Cemetery Preservation Act), and to establish priorities and criteria to be considered for grants. Proposed law abolishes the board and its functions.

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council: Present law creates the council within the division of administration, office of information technology, to be responsible for guiding the sound development of geographic information systems (GIS), spatially enabled data, and geographically related information technology for the state. Provides that the council shall advise the chief information officer (who is the head of the office of information technology within the division of administration) on the activities and duties of and provide oversight to the La. Geographic Information Center; make recommendations to the chief information officer on the establishment of GIS policies, procedures, and guidelines for the sharing of data and technology among federal, state, and local agencies; provide a forum for the coordination and cooperation of federal, state, and local GIS efforts; and advise state agencies on the acquisition and implementation of GIS and related activities. Requires the council to prepare and distribute periodic reports regarding the development of GIS technology and data sharing in state government. Proposed law abolishes the council and its functions.

Mississippi River Road Commission: Present law creates the commission with the purpose of to preserving, enhancing, and promoting the Mississippi River Road as an historic, cultural, scenic, natural, and economic resource for the state. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Systemic Initiatives Program Council: Present law establishes a program for the improvement of the quality of science and mathematics education through a committed and cooperative effort among agencies involved in higher education, elementary and secondary education, and the National Science Foundation. Requires the council to approve activities selected for program sponsorship and other projects and programs; establish and make available rules and procedures for the conduct of the program and the council; meet not less often than two times a year; employ and evaluate staff; and receive and approve the disbursement of all funds made available for the program. Authorizes the council to establish any permanent or temporary advisory bodies that the council deems helpful; establish any structure for the operation of the program, including committees of the council, that contributes to the efficient conduct of business; consider and recommend to

the legislature, BESE, the Board of Regents or any other entity changes in law, regulation, or policy that the council deems necessary or useful to the improvement of mathematics or science education; and permit, notwithstanding present law (Ch. 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950), members of the council to participate in projects and programs and activities sponsored by the program, in accordance with rules adopted by the council with regard to such participation. Proposed law abolishes the council and its functions.

Tri-State Corridor Commission: Present law creates to commission to undertake and perform economic development, industrial development, and tourism development in the corridor and in behalf of the membership comprising those political subdivisions (city, town, village, county, parish) within the boundaries of the commission's authority. Provides that the boundary of the commission is the geographical boundaries of the parish of Caddo in La. and the counties of Marion, Cass, and Bowie in Texas and Miller and Little River Counties in Arkansas. Authorizes the commission to receive monies, to levy and collect taxes other than ad valorem taxes, and to enter into cooperative agreements and arrangements. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Proposed law provides that the property and funds, if any, of the entities abolished by proposed law shall be the property of the state and the state treasurer shall provide for the deposit of such funds in the state treasury to the credit of the state general fund, after deposit in the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as otherwise provided by present law.

(Amends R.S. 3:558.5, 558.7(F), 558.9(C)(intro. para.), (3), and (4), and 558.12(A), R.S. 17:374(A)(2)(intro. para.), R.S. 36:4(B)(1)(e), the heading of Ch. 15 of Title 49, R.S. 49:968(B)(3)(c), 1054.1(A)(intro. para.), and 1055(D); Repeals R.S. 3:558.2(1), 558.3, 558.4, and 558.12(B) and (C), R.S. 17:7(25) and 2751-2759, R.S. 25:933(2), 941, and 1251-1255, R.S. 32:1751, R.S. 36:4(L)(2), 209(S) and (T), 610(M), 629(R), 651(D)(6), and 802.17, R.S. 40:1236.21-1236.31, R.S. 49:1051 through 1054 and 1056 through 1057, R.S. 51:955.1-955.4, and R.S. 56:901)