James (HB 105)

<u>Existing law</u> (R.S. 42:1111(A) – ethics code) generally prohibits public servants (public employees and elected officials) from receiving any thing of economic value other than compensation and benefits from the governmental entity to which he is duly entitled for the performance of the duties of his office or position.

Existing law provides certain exceptions, including a provision which allows a certain amount per year to be credited against qualified student loan debt that is provided to a former law student who is an attorney and public employee through a bona fide Loan Repayment Assistance Program established as a qualified program under the federal Internal Revenue Code and administered by any law school using funds or property accruing to the benefit of the law school or from a foundation organized to aid the law school in a philanthropic manner. Provides that any such funds received by such public employee shall be deemed as supplementary to compensation to which he is duly entitled. Prohibits such a supplement from being considered regular compensation from his employer and from being the basis for governmentally supported benefits.

<u>Prior law</u> set a maximum of \$3,000 per year that was allowed to be credited against the qualified student loan debt. <u>New law</u> changes the maximum amount allowed to be credited to \$5,000 per year.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 28, 2014).

(Amends R.S. 42:1111(A)(4))