

## 1A Priority Bills

### *Economic Competitiveness*

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Position	Notes
SB 494	Mizell	Provides for reorganization of Louisiana Economic Development (LED); provides that LED may establish a nonprofit corporation to assist with state economic development; creates the La. Economic Development Partnership as an advisory committee to LED; provides relative to the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation membership, duties, powers, and functions, among other provisions	Support	Reported favorably as amended by Senate Finance 5/2; pending Senate
SB 323	Talbot	Promotes good faith and fair dealing in the insurance claims process to make Louisiana a more attractive place for insurers to write policies; provides clear rights and timelines for both the insured and the insurer, encouraging swift claims resolutions and reducing the possibility of litigation	Support	Sent to Governor

### *Talent Development*

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Position	Notes
HB 264	Hughes	Requires students to successfully complete a one unit Computer Science course to graduate from high school and to qualify for TOPS; to be fully implemented for high school seniors graduating in 2030	Support	Reported favorably by Senate Education 5/1; pending Senate
HB 716 / SB 60	Owen / Pressly	Provide for universal recognition of occupational licenses if certain conditions are met	Support	HB 716 reported favorably by Senate Commerce 5/1, pending Senate; SB 60 reported favorably by House Commerce 4/29; pending House
SB 272	Edmonds	Provides relative to the M.J. Foster Promise Program; changes the amount the program cannot exceed from \$10,500,000 to \$40,000,000	Support	Reported favorably by House Education 4/24; pending House
SB 293	Edmonds	Provides that the Louisiana Workforce Commission coordinate delivery of business workforce solutions through the various workforce and educational agencies of the state	Support	Reported favorably by House Labor 5/1; pending House

## Economic Competitiveness

- Sustain and strengthen Louisiana Economic Development and the state's economic development toolkit, including impactful LED programs like LED FastStart and key business incentives with a demonstrated return on investment
- Boost site development funding to ensure readiness for business attraction opportunities
- Advance property insurance policies that increase availability, affordability, and reliability of insurance and bring Louisiana more in line with insurance practices in other states

### ***State / Regional Economic Development***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
SB 494	Mizell	Provides for reorganization of Louisiana Economic Development (LED); provides that LED may establish a nonprofit corporation to assist with state economic development; creates the La. Economic Development Partnership as an advisory committee to LED; provides relative to the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation membership, duties, powers, and functions, among other provisions	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Finance 5/2; pending Senate
HB 461	Jackson	Provides for confidentiality of certain information regarding active economic development negotiations involving a local government for no more than 24 months under certain circumstances	SUPPORT; paused in Senate and Gov. Affairs
SB 341	Harris	Changes administration of the Major Events Incentive Program from the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (Lt Gov) to the Dept. of Economic Development (LED)	Subject to call in Senate
SB 404	Connick	Provides relative to the Major Events Incentive Program; expands definitions of "qualified major event" and "site selection organization"	Passed Senate 4/17; pending House Approps
SB 408	Fields	Provides relative to cooperative economic development; provides that an ordinance establishing a district by the governing authority may provide that no portion of a proposed district shall include any tract of land that is used for residential purposes, except for hotels, motels, inns, or bed and breakfasts for temporary occupancy; provides that if language referencing residential property is included in the ordinance creating the district, all residential properties included in the proposed district are deemed excluded from the proposed district	Passed Senate 4/9; pending House Local & Muni.

### ***Oil & Gas / Coastal Issues / Natural Resources***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 259	Beaullieu	Reduces the severance tax rate on oil over an eight-year period from 12.5% to 8.5% of its value at the time and place of severance and fixes the severance tax rate for oil produced from certain incapable and stripper wells at the current rate	SUPPORT; passed House; pending Senate Rev & Fisc.
HB 274	McMakin	Repeals the three year prescription of penalties for suits by an official or agency responsible for the enforcement of a law or regulation governing the transportation and marketing of oil and gas	Withdrawn
HB 300	Orgeron	Provides that federal revenues received by the state and generated from Outer Continental Shelf alternative or renewable energy production be deposited into the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund	Passed House; pending Senate Finance

HB 305	Orgeron	Dedicates revenues received from alternative or renewable energy production in the coastal area to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund	Passed House; pending Senate Finance
HB 418	Beaullieu	Reduces severance tax rates on oil and gas produced from wells with inactive or orphan well status	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Rev & Fisc. 4/22; pending Senate
HB 444	Dewitt	Provides for assessments levied by the Louisiana Liquified Petroleum Gas Commission; Provides for monies received from assessments to be deposited into an account maintained by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism	
HB 474	Coates	Prohibits the use of natural wetlands for tertiary treatment of waste water	
HB 479	Myers	Requires every person making mineral royalty, bonus, or lease payments from properties located in La. to any resident or nonresident individual to deduct and withhold as tax an amount determined by the secretary of the Dept. of Revenue and to remit the tax withholdings to the secretary	
HB 612	McFarland	Creates a voluntary process for a pipeline owner to provide a notice of intent to cross an existing pipeline and initiate a summary proceeding for disputes	
HB 686	McFarland	Provides for rights of owners of pipeline servitudes; provides that the extent of a pipeline servitude or right of way shall be limited to the physical space in which the pipeline rests and the surface area and space necessary to undertake the activity expressly contemplated by the pipeline servitude or right of way; provides that proposed law applies to all servitudes or rights of way; provides that limitations on the use of such property must be reflected by a plat or sketch delineating physical boundaries	
HB 806	Geymann	Removes the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, the secretary of the Department of Economic Development, the commissioner of administration, the commissioner of agriculture and forestry, the commissioner of insurance, and the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board	
HB 810	Geymann	Provides for the organization, offices, functions, and responsibilities of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources and its officers; creates the offices of enforcement, energy, and land and water; creates the Louisiana Natural Resources Trust Authority; transfers the Louisiana oil spill coordinator to the department; and provides for the management of state lands and water bottoms	
HB 936	Zeringue	Provides an exception to compliance with certain local ordinances on flood control for integrated coastal protection plans included in the state's local master plan	
HCR 7 / HCR 18	Beaullieu	Urges and requests the administration of President Biden to end its pause on pending approvals of liquified natural gas exports	HCR 18 passed House; pending Senate Nat. Res.
HCR 25	Bourriaque	Approves the annual state integrated coastal protection plan for Fiscal Year 2025, as adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board	
SB 238	Seabaugh	Provides relative to pipeline crossings	

SB 268	Cathey	Creates a state sales tax rebate for the purchase of equipment, machinery, and other items used in lithium recovery activities; provides that the purpose of the sales tax rebate is to help ensure energy independence for the United States using a diversified approach	
SB 459	Seabaugh	Provides relative to remediation of oilfield sites and exploration	
SCR 3	Mizell	Memorializes Congress to enact reforms to federal permitting policies to accelerate deployment of new energy infrastructure	
SCR 14	Hensgens	Requests the United States Department of Energy to carefully consider the benefits of liquid natural gas exports	Reported favorably by House Nat. Res.; pending House

### ***Carbon Capture / Renewable & Other Energy***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 169	R. Carter	<u>Original bill</u> : Eliminates limitations on the recovery of noneconomic damages related to carbon dioxide sequestration  <u>As amended</u> : Retains cap but increases cap from \$250,000 to \$500,000 and changes the cap application from per occurrence to per person	OPPOSE; passed House; pending Senate Nat. Res.
HB 276	R. Carter	Requires that carbon dioxide sequestration activity comply with local land use planning; requires compliance with local land use planning and zoning laws in addition to a Class VI permit and despite the commissioner of conservation's broad authority over carbon capture activity in the state	OPPOSE; voluntarily deferred 4/17
HB 280	Coates	Prohibits the commissioner of conservation from issuing permits or orders that allow permanent above-surface structures on Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain and prohibits the secretary of the Dept. of Energy and Natural Resources from allowing coastal use permits for wind turbines on Lake Maurepas or Lake Pontchartrain	OPPOSE; failed House Natural Res. 4/4
HB 289	Mack	Prohibits Class VI injection wells in certain lakes with outstanding qualities: (1) Caney Lake; (2) Lake Maurepas; (3) Lake Pontchartrain; (4) Toledo Bend Reservoir	OPPOSE; failed House Natural Res. 4/4
HB 389	Mack	Establishes a ten year moratorium on carbon dioxide transport and sequestration on Lake Maurepas and the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area	OPPOSE; failed House Natural Res. 4/4
HB 516	Mack	Establishes requirements for carbon dioxide sequestration regarding emergency preparedness, recordation of maps, local notice, siting restrictions, local zoning, ground water monitoring, and reporting	OPPOSE; passed House; pending Senate Nat. Res.

HB 696	Geymann	Authorizes the commissioner of conservation to order unitization for carbon dioxide sequestration projects; specifies that the commissioner is authorized to order unitization, pooling, and consolidation of a reservoir for geologic storage, upon the application of a proposed storage facility operator, after public hearing, and if the commissioner finds all of the following: (1) the proposed storage reservoir meets the requirements of present law; (2) the full areal extent of the Storage Unit has been reasonably defined; (3) at the time of the hearing, at least three-fourths of the owners in interest within the Storage Unit have executed contracts with the proposed storage operator covering their interests in the Storage Unit, among other provisions	Became HB 966
HB 729	R. Carter	Removes authority of carbon dioxide storage facility owners and operators to use eminent domain to acquire property or rights without the property owner's consent	OPPOSE; voluntarily deferred in House Natural Res. 4/17
HB 774	McCormick	Provides that if the exercise of the power of eminent domain is used to expropriate property, that the mineral owner of such property must be compensated for any minerals that are stranded reserves, or pay the additional costs to drill the CO2 plumes	
HB 783	McCormick	Provides that if exercise of the power of eminent domain is used to expropriate property and pore space is taken, then the landowner must be compensated to the maximum amount paid to any other landowner in the expropriation proceeding; specifies that such compensation will be on a per acre basis	
HB 893	Schamer.	Requires solar farms to have buffer zones between the operational area of a solar farm and any adjoining residential area	
HB 934	LaCombe	Dedicates 15% of revenue received by the state for carbon dioxide sequestration on property within the jurisdiction of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to local governing authorities where the property is located	
HB 937	Geymann	Defines "landowner" within the Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide Act and provides that surface and pore space owners who are not the owner or operator of a storage facility or transmission pipeline or the generator of carbon dioxide are not liable for the performance of responsibilities established within the act or any claims related to the sequestration of carbon dioxide	
HB 966	Geymann	Authorizes unitization for carbon dioxide sequestration	Reported favorably by Senate Nat. Res. 5/1; pending Senate

#### **Insurance Rates / Policies**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 199	LaFleur	Prohibits insurance rate determinations based on risks classified by gender	
HB 375	M. Landry	Requires insurers to disclose all offered discounts that may reduce premium costs of homeowners' and motor vehicle liability insurance policies	

HB 387	R. Carter	Prohibits an insurer from using advertising expenses in setting rates or making rate filings with the commissioner of insurance	
HB 441	Boyer	Provides for the use of wind zone classification area for new policies covering wind damage for commercial and residential properties; requires the total value of new policies written or issued to reflect, as much as practicable, the total value of wind damage policies terminated so that the total value of the insurer's exposure to wind damage remains the same within the same wind zone classification	
HB 478	Glorioso	Prohibits lenders from requiring property insurance coverage in excess of replacement value on improvements of immovable property	
HB 510	Glorioso	Prohibits an insurer writing property insurance policies from requiring a policyholder to participate in mandatory binding arbitration unless all of the following apply: (1) the mandatory binding arbitration requirements are contained in a separate endorsement attached to the property insurance policy; (2) the premium charged for the policy includes an actuarially sound credit or premium discount for the mandatory binding arbitration endorsement.; (3) the policyholder signs a form prescribed by the commissioner electing to accept mandatory binding arbitration, and such form notifies the policyholder of rights forfeited in exchange for the credit or premium discount; (4) the endorsement establishes that an insurer will comply with the mediation provisions in present law before the initiation of arbitration; (5) the insurer offers the policyholder a policy that does not require the policyholder to participate in mandatory binding arbitration, among other provisions	
HB 513	Stagni	Provides an approval process for submitted insurance rates with a greater than 10% target rate of return or expected profit	
HB 611	Firment	Modifies relative to homeowners' insurance with respect to policy deductibles and the cancellation and nonrenewal of policies in effect for more than 3 years	SUPPORT; sent to Governor
HB 613	Firment	Provides relative to the ratemaking system utilized by insurers and rating organizations submitting rate filings to the commissioner of insurance; requires every authorized insurer to file with the commissioner all rates, supplementary rate information, and all supporting information for risks to be written by the insurer; further provides that rates and submitted information are deemed approved unless the insurer is notified otherwise in writing by the commissioner within 30 days of the filing, among other provisions	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Insurance 4/17; pending Senate
HB 671	Jordan	Prohibits the use of certain rating factors in insurance underwriting; prohibits risk classification based on a person's credit information, education level, employment, trade, business, occupation, or profession; repeals regulations on the use of credit information for personal insurance	
SB 295	Cloud	Provides for certain processes relative to rate making; changes the rate filing requirement for certain property, casualty, and liability policies by requiring every insurer writing certain property, casualty, and liability policies to file with the commissioner of insurance all rates, supplementary rate information, and all supporting information for risks to be written by the insurer in this state; the rates and information submitted is deemed approved unless the commissioner notifies the insurer within 30 days from the Dept. of Insurance receiving the rate filing, among other provisions	SUPPORT; sent to Governor

SB 345	Barrow	Requires an insurer writing certain property, casualty, and liability policies to provide a widowed insured additional time of not more than six months to pay any premiums due for his homeowner's insurance policy
SB 370	Bass	Authorizes an insurer to modify homeowners' policy deductible for policies that have been in effect or renewed for three years or more; proposed law adds that a modification of coverage at the time the policy is renewed is not deemed a cancellation or failure to renew; proposed law further provides technical changes; provides that proposed law relative to modification of coverage, and annual review of any insurer cancelling or failing to renew homeowners policies in effect or renewed for three years or more does not apply to any property, casualty, or liability insurance issued after Aug. 1, 2024, among other provisions
SB 376	Morris	Provides for notice of a premium rate increase; adds a requirement that the notices be sent to the insured or a property owner at least six weeks prior to the effective date of the premium rate increase

#### ***Timeliness / Fair Dealing / Records Availability***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 257	M. Landry	Provides timeframes for compliance and penalties for noncompliance with consumer complaint directives issued by the commissioner of insurance	
HB 520	Firment	Declares failures of insurers to retain and provide certain information regarding adjusters' reports as unfair or deceptive acts or practices	
HB 605	Henry	Provides for electronic or physical delivery of certain notices of hearings and violations	
HB 656	Mena	Provides relative to first-party property damage claims; requires insurers to provide onsite field adjusters' reports to insureds via electronic delivery	
HB 673	Jordan	Prohibits insurers' use of external consumer data and information sources if usage results in unfair discrimination	
HB 678	Firment	Provides exclusive claim settlement practices for immovable property; requires an insurer to acknowledge receipt of a claim and begin investigation of the claim within 15 days of receipt of notice of a claim, or within 30 business days for eligible surplus lines insurers; requires an insurer to request from the claimant all items the insurer reasonably believes will be required from the claimant and to provide necessary claim forms, instructions, and reasonable assistance to first-party claimants, including forms for filing proof of loss, among other provisions	LDI bill; SUPPORT
SB 242	Bouie	Prohibits an insurer that has issued a policy of homeowner's insurance from using aerial images to inspect the conditions of insured property unless the images are taken within 12 months after the date the insured has purchased the policy	
SB 323	Talbot	Promotes good faith and fair dealing in the insurance claims process to make Louisiana a more attractive place for insurers to write policies; provides clear rights and timelines for both the insured and the insurer, encouraging swift claims resolutions and reducing the possibility of litigation	LDI bill; SUPPORT; sent to Governor

**Insurance Market Participation / Contractors**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 144	Glorioso	Prohibits insurers from issuing immovable property insurance policies that cover unimproved land and excess replacement costs of improvements	
HB 459	Glorioso	Prohibits contractors from soliciting a property owner's property insurance coverage for roof repair by utilizing certain advertisements and communications	
HB 609	Firment	Provides for the employment of umpires in the appraisal process	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Insurance 4/16; pending Senate
HB 665	Braud	Creates the Stated Value Homeowner's Policy Act to provide homeowners an option to choose coverage based on the stated value of residential property	
HB 672	Jordan	Provides regulations for examinations of managing general agents (MGA); requires an MGA to quarterly submit an account report to each insurer with whom the MGA has a contract; requires the MGA to include in the report certain statements regarding written, earned, and unearned premiums; losses and expenses paid and outstanding; losses incurred but not reported; and management fees; requires an MGA to submit to an examination, as the commissioner of insurance (commissioner) deems necessary, of the MGA's financial condition and compliance with the laws of this state affecting the conduct of the MGA's business, among other provisions	
HB 701	Carver	Creates the Insurance Regulatory Sandbox Act; provides for regulatory sandbox and innovation waivers to allow persons to introduce insurance products or services for a certain period of time; authorizes the commissioner of insurance to grant a variance or waiver with respect to specific requirements of any insurance law, regulation, or bulletin if a person demonstrates that the application of the law, regulation, or bulletin would prohibit the introduction of an innovative or more efficient insurance product or service that the applicant intends to offer during the period for which the proposed waiver is granted, among other provisions	Reported favorably by Senate Insurance 5/1; pending Senate

**Fortified Structure Standards & Discounts**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 120	Willard	Repeals termination date of the La. Fortify Homes Program (currently set to terminate June 30, 2025)	SUPPORT; sent to Governor



SB 484	Duplessis	Provides for changes to the Louisiana Fortify Homes Program; adds requirement that the commissioner promulgate rules and regulations when it is necessary for the proper administration of the La. Fortified Homes Roof Program, including but not limited to any benefits, resources, discounts, credits, or rate adjustments insurer may offer a homeowner who has a fortified roof; requires the Dept. of Insurance to apply for grants or funds from the federal government or other funding sources, if available; provides the La. Fortify Homes Program may provide grants or funding to nonprofit entities; requires insurers to submit rates, rating plans, and actuarial justifications to the commissioner no later than September 1, 2025; provides mitigation requirements; requires insurers to offer a 20% to 30% premium discount or rate reduction for residential and commercial properties to any owner who builds or locates a new insurable property to resist loss due to a hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic windstorm events no later than October 1, 2025; repeals program termination date, among other provisions
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#### ***LA Citizens Property Insurance Corp.***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 428	Boyd	Provides relative to the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; provides policyholders the option to limit or exclude coverage of personal property within insurable property	
HB 524	Willard	Suspends the premium increase of at least 10% assessed by the La. Citizens Property Insurance Corp. for policies issued in this state	
SB 113	Talbot	Provides the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation an exemption from liability for certain property insurance claims; adds an exemption for the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation from liability for any special damages awarded under present law for certain property insurance claims	

#### ***Tort Reform***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 24	Melerine	Eliminates the presumption of causation established by lack of prior history of an injury	LABI bill; SUPPORT; passed House; paused in Senate Jud A
HB 53	Mack	Provides a limitation of actions for any injury, loss, or damage for operators of motor vehicles from actions by passengers	
HB 88	Melerine	Provides proper venue for foreign or alien insurers and removes the requirement that actions against foreign or alien insurers be brought in East Baton Rouge Parish	
HB 229	Green	Changes prescriptive periods for tort actions from one year to three years	OPPOSE

HB 315	M. Johnson	Changes prescriptive periods for tort actions from one year to two years	Reported favorably by Senate Jud A 4/30; pending Senate
HB 336	Chenevert	Creates the Litigation Financing Disclosure Act; provides that a party or his attorney shall provide to all litigants, including the insurer if prior to litigation, any litigation financing contract or agreement under which anyone, other than an attorney permitted to charge a contingent fee, has received or has a right to receive either: (1) compensation or proceeds that are contingent on and sourced from any proceeds of the civil action by settlement, judgement, or otherwise; or (2) proprietary information obtained as a result of a civil action; provides that the existence of litigation financing, litigation financing contracts or agreements, and all participants in such financing arrangements are permissible subjects of discovery in all civil cases, including personal injury litigation or matters arising out of personal injuries; relative to class action suits, provides that in addition to the disclosure requirements set forth in proposed law, the attorney of the putative class shall disclose to all parties, putative class members, and the court any legal, financial, or other relationship between the legal representative and litigation financier, among other provisions	LABI bill; SUPPORT; passed House 3/21; paused in Senate Jud A
HB 337	McFarland	Provides that in direct action cases, an action is filed against the insured first and may be filed against the insurer under limited circumstances	LABI bill; SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Insurance 4/24; pending Senate
HB 423	Melerine	Provides for the payment of recoverable medical expenses from collateral sources; deletes the requirement that the court shall award the claimant 40% of the difference between the amount billed and the amount actually paid to the contracted medical provider by a health insurance issuer or Medicare	LABI bill; SUPPORT (identical to SB 18); reported favorably by Senate Jud A 4/30; pending Senate
HB 597	Henry	Provides relative to the payment of certain expenses in personal injury claims; requires the use of a reversionary medical trust for the payment of future medical and related expenses in the amount of \$50,000 or greater; requires that the liable party establish the trust and the claimant shall submit original invoices, which the trustee shall review for payment; the trustee shall also prepare vouchers or warrants and evaluate and settle claims related to the payment of future medical care and related benefits; provides that upon the death of the claimant or upon the termination of the trust as provided in the trust instrument, any funds remaining in the reversionary trust shall revert to the party that established the trust	LABI bill; SUPPORT

SB 8	Edmonds	Creates the Litigation Financing Disclosure Act; provides that except as otherwise stipulated by the parties or ordered by the court, a party or a party's attorney shall, without awaiting a discovery request and upon the later of 60 days after the commencement of a civil action or 60 days after execution of the litigation financing agreement, provide to all parties to the civil action, including their insurer, if prior to litigation, any litigation financing contract or agreement under which anyone, other than a legal representative permitted to charge a contingent fee representing a party, has received or has a right to receive compensation or proceeds that are contingent on and sourced from any proceeds of the civil action, by settlement, judgment, or otherwise, among other provisions	LABI bill; SUPPORT
SB 18	Seabaugh	Provides for collateral sources in civil action	SUPPORT (identical to HB 423)
SB 20	Seabaugh	Provides that in a claim for personal injury damages that is not raised pursuant to the LWC law, the lack of a prior history of an illness or injury shall not create a presumption that an illness or injury was caused by the act that is the subject of the claim	LABI bill; SUPPORT
SB 25	Seabaugh	Provides for limitation of damages for compulsory motor vehicle liability security	
SB 130	Bass	Removes certain limitations upon jury trials	
SB 172	Bass	Provides for limitation of recovery for soft tissue injury claim; provides that the total liability in general damages of a tortfeasor for a negligent act that occurs on and after August 1, 2024, that causes of soft tissue injury to a person shall not exceed \$25,000, including all claims and derivative claims, and regardless of the number of suits filed or claims made for the personal injury to that person, among other provisions	
SB 244	Talbot	Provides for admissibility of evidence for payment of medical expenses or losses from personal injury or property damage	LABI bill; SUPPORT; differs from HB 423
SB 250	Allain	Provides for no right of direct action against insurer	LABI bill; SUPPORT; SB 250 reported favorably by Senate Insurance 3/20; subject to call in Senate
SB 266	Pressly	Provides for reversionary medical trust; requires the use of a reversionary medical trust for the payment of future medical and related expenses in the amount of \$50,000 or greater; requires that the liable party establish the trust and the claimant shall submit original invoices, which the trustee shall review for payment. The trustee shall also prepare vouchers or warrants and evaluate and settle claims related to the payment of future medical care and related benefits. The trustee shall have the same fiduciary duties as imposed upon a trustee by the La. Trust Code; provides that upon the death of the claimant or upon the termination of the trust as provided in the trust instrument, any funds remaining in the reversionary trust shall revert to the party that established the trust	LABI bill; SUPPORT
SB 303	Allain	Provides for a limitation on general damages; provides for a \$500,000 limitation for general damages, excluding special or economic damages, in civil suits	

SB 334	Talbot	Provides relative to certain prescriptive periods for delictual actions; proposed law increases prescriptive period from one year to two years, among other provisions	
SB 355	Stine	Provides for regulation of litigation funding by a third party that is a foreign person, state, or wealth fund	
SB 382	Talbot	Provides for payment of recoverable medical expenses from collateral sources; retains present law but deletes the requirement that the court shall award claimant 40% of the difference between the amount billed and the amount actually paid to the contracted medical provider by a health insurance issuer or Medicare	SUPPORT

#### ***Income Tax / Other Tax***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 844	Riser	Repeals the individual income tax effective January 1, 2026	
HR 61	Wright	Authorizes the House Committee on Ways and Means, or a subcommittee thereof, to study the state's tax structure and develop recommendations for tax system reforms	

#### ***Assessment, Administration & Board of Tax Appeals***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 195	Billings	Transfers the La. Tax Commission from the office of the governor to the Dept. of Revenue	
SB 191	Reese	Provides relative to the enforcement and adjudication of state and local taxes and the Board of Tax Appeals	
HB 837	Emerson	Raises the limit on the individual value of claims approved by the Board of Tax Appeals that are to be paid from current tax collections rather than submitted to the legislature for payment through the appropriations process	
HB 871	Henry	Provides with respect to procedures for collection of delinquent ad valorem taxes and statutory impositions, conducting tax auctions, issuance of tax auction certificates, and redemption of certain property	
HB 921	Hilferty	Requires an assessor to use the fair market value of real property determined in a final, nonappealable judgment for assessment purposes in subsequent tax years until reappraisal in a future mandated reappraisal year	
SB 286	Luneau	Provides relative to the assessment, payment and collection of ad valorem taxes; affects provisions allowing for bonding when paying under protest	
SB 393	Miller	Provides relative to the assessment, payment, and allocation of ad valorem taxes	

**Small & Minority-Owned Business**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 877	McFarland	Authorizes political subdivisions to increase project cost for disadvantaged businesses	
SB 189	Coussan	Provides relative to state procurement awards for service-connected disabled veteran owned small businesses; adds a preference of at least 10% of the value of the procurements designated for set-aside awards, if possible, for service-connected disabled veteran owned small businesses. Requires the commissioner to award the balance of the set-aside contracts to other small businesses if small businesses owned and operated by service-connected disabled veterans are unable to perform at least 10% of the set-aside awards, among other provisions	SUPPORT

**General Commerce / Consumer Affairs**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 448	M. Landry	Establishes the "Consumer Payment Choice Act"; requires certain businesses to accept cash as a payment option for in-person transactions	
HB 484	LaFleur	Prohibits a business from charging a debit or credit cardholder certain excess card usage fees	
HB 487	Newell	Prohibits a business from charging a debit or credit cardholder certain excess card usage fees	
HB 610	Bayham	Requires certain businesses to accept cash as a payment option for in-person transactions	
HB 914	Amedee	Prohibits financial institutions for denying or canceling services or discriminating against a person on the basis of any of the following: (1) political opinions, speech, or affiliations; (2) religious beliefs, religious exercise, or religious affiliations; (3) any factor if it is not a quantitative, impartial, and risk-based standard; or (4) the use of any rating, scoring, analysis, tabulation, or action that considers a social credit score based on certain factors	
SB 10	Pressly	Provides for the recognition of separate legal personalities among affiliated corporations and other business entities	
SB 28	Reese	Repeals the sunset date of the Virtual Currency Business Act, which provides for the regulation of virtual currency business and defines certain terms	
SB 110	Pressly	Provides for certain assets and transactions subject to the Uniform Commercial Code	
SB 335	Coussan	Creates the Louisiana Commercial Financing Disclosure Law	

## Talent Development

- Bolster the M.J. Foster Promise Program and other funding for workforce training aligned with high-demand jobs, including work-based learning
- Increase access to K-12 computer science education
- Sufficiently fund early care and education, which is critical for our children's brain development and their parents' ability to participate in the workforce

### ***LA Workforce Commission / Workforce Investment Council***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 588	Crews	Provides relative to the membership of the Workforce Investment Council	Reported favorably by Senate Labor 4/24; pending Senate
SB 293	Edmonds	Provides that the Louisiana Workforce Commission coordinate delivery of business workforce solutions through the various workforce and educational agencies of the state	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Labor 5/1; pending House

### ***M.J. Foster Promise Program***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 728	Davis	Relative to the MJ Foster Promise Program, lowers minimum age for initial eligibility from 21 to 17 and removes requirements to have not been convicted of a violent crime	BRAC bill; passed House 4/10; pending Senate Education
SB 272	Edmonds	Provides relative to the M.J. Foster Promise Program; changes the amount the program cannot exceed from \$10,500,000 to \$40,000,000	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Education 4/24; pending House

### ***Dual Enrollment***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 551	Brass	Revises the membership and duties of the Dual Enrollment Framework Task Force; provides for the addition of the president of the La. Assoc. for Career and Technical Education or his designee to the members of the task force; expands the required focus of recommendations to include career pathways and technical high schools and opportunities for expanding career-relevant college credit and industry-based credentials through dual enrollment, including by establishing regional technical high schools operated by partnerships of one or more school districts and one or more public colleges or universities	BOR bill; SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Education 4/24; pending Senate

SB 352	Mizell	Provides relative to the Dual Enrollment Framework Task Force; adds one member to the Dual Enrollment Framework Task Force who is the president of the Louisiana Association for Career and Technical Education or his designee; further provides that the task force must review career pathways and technical high schools in developing recommendations for the framework; further provides that the guarantee includes advancing a student's progress toward postsecondary technical certificates, diplomas, and degrees and related industry-based certifications, among other provisions; provides that the task force can identify a process to explore the expansion of virtual instruction programs to increase the participation of dual enrollment course offerings in school districts across the state; provides that the task force can identify a process to explore the expansion of virtual instruction programs to increase the participation of dual enrollment course offerings in school districts across the state, among other provisions	BOR bill; SUPPORT; passed Senate 3/20; pending House Education
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### ***High School to College & Career Transition***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 70	Turner	Removes the requirement that students who complete approved home study programs attain a higher ACT score to qualify initially for a TOPS award than students who graduate from approved high schools; instead requires they obtain the same scores as students who graduate from approved high schools (minimum ACT score requirements: TOPS-Tech, 17; Opportunity, 20; Performance, 23; and Honors, 27)	
HB 266	Amedee	Revises the manner a student may satisfy the computer science requirement in the high school core curriculum required for a Taylor Opportunity for Students award; removes the option to take two units of computer science in lieu of a foreign language and instead adds computer science to a list of accepted science electives	Passed House; pending Senate Education
HB 452	St. Blanc	Provides for the termination of the TOPS-Tech award beginning with the 2029-2030 award year; provides that students graduating from high school through the 2026-2027 school year may qualify for a TOPS-Tech award; provides that students entering high school in the 2024-2025 school year or thereafter shall not qualify for a TOPS-Tech award; provides that beginning with the 2029-2030 award year, the only TOPS awards provided shall be Opportunity, Performance, and Honors awards	Reported favorably by House Education 4/9; subject to call in House
HB 549	Amedee	Removes requirements that home school students complete state-approved home study programs and attain a higher ACT score for initial qualification for a TOPS award	
HB 662	Chassion	Authorizes the BESE and DOE to approve certain high school students to demonstrate workforce readiness in lieu of passing the state-administered end-of-course assessments required for high school graduation. Such students shall meet the following requirements: (1) successful completion of career major curriculum and graduation requirements and an industry-based credential as provided in present law; (2) at least a silver level on ACT WorkKeys; (3) receipt of advice regarding information from the LA Workforce Commission in his individual graduation plan as provided in present law; applies to students graduating in the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter	

HB 762	Bamburg	Repeals requirement that high school students pursuing a career diploma take the ACT or WorkKeys test and prohibits any State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education rule, regulation, or policy from requiring any student to take the ACT or any other ACT assessment	Reported favorably by House Education 4/30; pending House
HCR 44	Melerine	Directs the BESE to explore the creation of an appeals process for certain students who do not pass state-administered, end-of-course assessments required for high school graduation	Passed House; pending Senate Education
SB 38	Edmonds	Provides with respect to the Course Choice Program; changes the definition of "eligible funded student" from a student that obtains approval from the local school superintendent or governing authority to a student who obtains parental approval after consultation with the person designated by the governing authority of the school; changes the requirement that the public school governing authority determine the appropriateness of the requested course to advising the student and the student's parents as to the appropriateness as part of the development and annual review of the student's Individual Graduation Plan	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Education 4/24; pending House
SB 259	Jackson-Andrews	Provides relative to career diploma requirements; retains present law requiring a student pursuing a career diploma to take the American College Test and allows a student to choose to take the WorkKeys test and requiring BESE to develop a system of equivalent scores for the American College Test and the WorkKeys test and to use a student's highest score achieved on such test or tests for purposes of the school and district accountability system; further allows an option for a parent or legal guardian to refuse to have the ACT administered to the student; prohibits BESE from applying a score, for purposes of the school and district accountability system, to a student who was not administered the ACT; prohibits penalizing a student who was not administered the ACT	
SB 443	Jackson-Andrews	Mandates residency requirements for TOPS award; requires a student remain a resident of Louisiana and be employed in the state for 36 months after the student's graduation from a college or university; provides that the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance is responsible for recouping not more than 1/3 of the total amount paid out by TOPS award for each year the student does not reside in Louisiana	Withdrawn

### ***Work-Based Learning & Youth Employment***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 216	Jackson	Authorizes tax rebates for certain employers for wages paid to youth employees (ages 16 - 23) during summer employment; "eligible youth" requirements include being a resident of LA, unemployed immediately prior to being hired by a qualifying employer, during such employment participates in either a youth employment program offered through the LA Workforce Investment Council or an American Job Council OR a local, regional, national, or international nonprofit organization that assists individuals in finding employment and provides job training programs and services for youth and adults, among other requirements	



SCR 20	Duplessis	Requests the Department of Education and Workforce Commission, along with local school boards and chambers of commerce, to aggressively develop and promote high quality, youth-serving apprenticeship programs and work-based experiences for high school students
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#### ***Healthcare Workforce Development***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 329	Myers	Provides relative to the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund; makes technical changes only	SUPPORT; passed House; pending Senate Finance
HB 615	Stagni	Provides for the dedication and use of the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund; changes the professions to incentivize with stipends and tuition forgiveness from nursing and allied health professionals to doctors of medicine, doctors of osteopathy, physician assistants, and advanced practice registered nurses in designated health professional shortage areas.	

#### ***Occupational Licensing***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 716	Owen	Provides for universal recognition of occupational licenses; provides that notwithstanding any other law, a board shall issue an occupational license or certification to a person upon application, if all the following apply: (1) the applicant holds a current and valid occupational license or certification in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board in this state; (2) the applicant has held the occupational license or certification in the other state for at least one year; (3) the other state required the applicant to pass an examination, or to meet education, training, or experience standards; (4) the other state holds the applicant in good standing; (5) the applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board in this state under state law; (6) the applicant does not have a disciplinary action or investigation pending in another state. If the applicant has a disciplinary action or investigation pending, the board in this state shall not issue or deny an occupational license or certification to the person until the disciplinary action or investigation is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for an occupational license or certification in this state to the satisfaction of the board in this state; (7) the applicant pays all applicable fees in this state, among other provisions	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Commerce 5/1; pending Senate
HB 753	Deshotel	Provides for the licensing and qualifications of a residential plumber and discontinues the tradesman plumber limited license; changes tradesman plumber limited license to residential plumber limited license; provides that a residential plumber may independently install, alter, repair, and maintain plumbing in one- and two-family dwellings without supervision	

HB 959	Deshotel	Terminates licensure requirements and licensing for certain professions and occupations on July 1, 2026, including but not limited to: (1) the LA Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters; (2) LA State Polygraph Board; (3) LA Board of Professional Geoscientists; (4) LA Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors; (5) LA Board of Certified Public Accountants; (6) LA Board of Architectural Examiners; (7) LA Board of Cosmetology; (8) LA Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board; (9) LA Plumbing Board; (10) LA Real Estate Commission; (11) LA Real Estate Appraisers Board; (12) LA Licensing Board for Contractors; (13) LA Auctioneers Licensing Board; (14) LA Board of Examiners of Interior Design; (15) LA Board of Private Security Examiners; (16) LA Board of Private Investigator Examiners; and (17) LA Dept. of Ag & Forestry and statutory entities made a part of the department by present law; further terminates the following licensing authorities effective July 1, 2028: (1) LA State Boxing and Wrestling Commission; (2) LA Racing Commission; (3) LA Used Motor Vehicle Commission; and (4) LA Motor Vehicle Commission; further terminates the licensing authority of the Office of Financial Institutions effective July 1, 2030; exempts health professionals, healthcare providers and licenses, and the Department of Health and all statutory entities made a part of the department by present law, attorneys, and liceses that require doctorate degrees from proposed law	
SB 60	Pressly	Provides that the professional or occupational licensing board shall issue an occupational license if all of the following apply: (1) the person holds a current and valid occupational license in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board; (2) the person has held the occupational license in the other state for at least one year; (3) the board in the other state required the person pass an examination or to meet education, training, or experience standards; (4) the board in the other state holds the person in good standing; (5) the person does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board under state law; (6) no board in another state has revoked the person's occupational license because of negligence or intentional misconduct related to the person's work in the occupation; (7) the person did not surrender his occupational license because of negligence or intentional misconduct related to his work in the occupation in another state; (8) the person does not have a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending before a board in another state which relates to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime. The professional or occupational licensing board may require, when applicable, the applicant to furnish a signed affidavit or notarized letter from the other state board or certifying agency of the relevant jurisdiction confirming the applicant is in good standing; (9) the person pays all applicable fees in this state, including any board required background checks, among other provisions	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Commerce 4/29; pending House
SB 332	Seabaugh	Repeals the Occupational Licensing Review Commission	Passed Senate; pending House Commerce

SB 456	Pressly	Renames the Occupational Board Compliance Act to the Occupational Board and Commission Compliance Act; creates the Louisiana Regulatory and Advisory Board Review Commission; updates "active supervision" requirements to do the following: (1) review the substance of an occupational regulation proposed by any occupational licensing board; (2) approve or disapprove with suggested amendments, or allow an occupational licensing board to withdraw for revision an occupational regulation to ensure compliance with state policy; (3) conduct a sunset review of every state board and commission at least once every four years; and (4) determine whether each state board or commission issuing an license fulfills a legitimate health, safety, welfare, or fiduciary objective; provides that provisions of present law are not applicable to occupational licensing boards that are not controlled by active market participants; provides that all statutory boards and commissions in this state shall begin to terminate their operations on July 1, 2028, and all legislative authority for the existence of any board or commission shall cease as of July 1, 2029, among other provisions
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#### ***Education Savings/Scholarship Accounts (ESAs)***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 66	Butler	Creates and provides for the administration of a program for the purpose of providing state funding for qualified education expenses for students with exceptionalities in grades kindergarten through 12 who are not enrolled in a public school	
HB 191	Freiberg	Creates and provides for the administration of a program for the purpose of providing state funding for qualified education expenses for certain students who have been victims of bullying and who are not enrolled in a public school	
HB 745	Emerson	Creates and provides for the LA GATOR Scholarship Program, a universal education scholarship account (ESA) program for K-12 students	SUPPORT; passed House 4/8; pending Senate Education
SB 313	Edmonds	Creates the Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program and provides for program administration by the state DOE in accordance with BESE rules which shall, at minimum, provide for: (1) Determination of eligibility of students, participating schools, and service providers. (2) Audits of the program and accounts. (3) DOE's authority to: (a) Deem any participating student ineligible for the program and to refer cases of misuse of account funds to the attorney general for investigation. (b) Contract with a vendor or provider for the administration of the program or parts of the program. (4) A requirement that the program begin enrolling students by the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Education as amended 3/20; pending Senate Finance

**Charter Schools**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 78	Carver	Authorizes initial proposals for charter schools with corporate partners to be made to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as Type 2 charter school proposals	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Education 4/24; pending Senate
HB 708	Freiberg	Removes requirements that charter schools meet a certain threshold with respect to the number of students with exceptionalities and economically disadvantaged students relative to its total student enrollment	BRAC supports; reported favorably by Senate Education 5/1; pending Senate
SB 47	Talbot	Provides relative to charter schools; provides that a proposal for a charter school with a corporate partner may be made first to the state board as a Type 2 charter school; provides for encouraging and enhancing partnerships between state and federal government partners, which provide for public health and safety, defense, and critical infrastructure, and the state's public education system is to the benefit of the state and its students; provides that in addition to the definition of corporate partner in present law, a corporate partner is also a regional airport or any federal or state entity or agency, including a public postsecondary education institution	SUPPORT; passed Senate 4/15; pending House Education
SB 316	Miguez	Changes when an approved school charter must be valid for an initial period from four to five years	
SB 321	Edmonds	Creates the Charter School Facilities Fund within the Louisiana Department of Education	Reported favorably by Senate Education 3/17; subject to call in Senate
SB 350	Edmonds	Removes authorization of experimentation by local school boards through the creation of innovative kinds of independent public schools, and instead authorizes school choice options for parents, teachers, and pupils through the creation of innovative kinds of independent public charter schools	
SB 362	Cloud	Removes authorization of experimentation by local school boards through the creation of innovative kinds of independent public schools, and instead authorizes school choice options for parents, teachers, and pupils through the creation of innovative kinds of independent public charter schools	

**K-12 Standards & Accountability**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 8	Melerine	Prohibits the use of an appeals process for certain students who fail to pass state-administered tests required for high school graduation	
HB 258	Turner	Provides for administration of the ACT and the WorkKeys test to students and for the use of results in the school and district accountability system	
HB 377	St. Blanc	Authorizes virtual charter school students to take state tests remotely	
HB 424	Phelps	Requires all public schools, including charter schools, to use a uniform 10-point grading scale	

HB 931	Chassion	Prohibits BESE and the state Dept. of Education from denying high school graduation eligibility to school students who meet the following requirements: (1) successful completion of career major curriculum and graduation requirements and an industry-based credential as provided in present law; (2) at least a silver level on ACT WorkKeys; and (3) receipt of advice regarding information from the La. Workforce Commission in his individual graduation plan as provided in present law; proposed law applies to students graduating in the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter
HB 945	Chassion	Prohibits requiring students to pass state-administered end-of-course (LEAP) tests in order to graduate from high school
HCR 8	Brass	Creates a task force to evaluate the use of high stakes testing in determinations relative to high school graduation and to submit a written report to the House and Senate education committees not later than March 1, 2025

### ***Early Care and Education***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 190	Freiberg	Provides relative to the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission; proposed law increases the membership from 41 to 43 by adding a representative of a nongovernmental economic development organization (appointed by CEO of C100) and a child advocacy organization (appointed by LA Policy Institute for Children), among other provisions	Reported favorably by Senate Education; pending Senate
SB 120	Mizell	Transfers unused money from TOPS to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund under certain circumstances; requires that beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and continuing thereafter, monies awarded to a student who loses a TOPS award for failing to maintain eligibility must be transferred to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund; the award amount has to be transferred within 60 days after an institution receives the monies for a student whose award has been cancelled	
SB 433	Edmonds	Requires the Dept. of Education to establish an online Early Childhood Education Data Dashboard	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Education 4/24; pending Senate Finance

### ***Literacy / Numeracy***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 112	Wyble	Provides for the consideration of student achievement in literacy and math in the evaluation of local school superintendents; requires a superintendent's contract to provide that he is subject to a performance evaluation and that one third of the evaluation shall be based on evidence of growth in student achievement by the end of the third grade in literacy and mathematics	Reported favorably by Senate Education 4/16; pending Senate

HB 244	Hughes	Expands the Steve Carter Literacy Program to include mathematics and certain public school students in all grades; increases per pupil funding from \$1,000 to \$1,500	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Education 3/21; sched. for House Approps. 5/6
HB 267	Carver	Provides relative to teaching numeracy skills to certain public school students; requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to develop or select and provide three numeracy screeners to measure the development of foundational numeracy of each public school student in grades K-3; provides for students to take screeners throughout the school year: within the first 30 days of the school year, in Dec., and in April; requires parental notification when students are identified as having numeracy skills that are below grade level; requires school officials and parents to create an individual numeracy improvement plan for each student identified as having numeracy skills below grade level; requires each public school to provide K-3 students with instruction based on methods proven to provide a strong numeracy foundation, provide numeracy intervention, and more; amended to change author from Rep. Hughes to Rep. Carver	SUPPORT; reported favorably by House Education 3/21; sched. for House Approps 5/6

#### ***Computer Science Education***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 264	Hughes	Requires students to successfully complete a one unit Computer Science course to graduate from high school and to qualify for TOPS	SUPPORT; reported favorably by Senate Education 5/1; pending Senate

#### ***Teacher Training & Instructional Requirements***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 115	Wyble	Removes application of certain instructional requirements to K-3 students, including (1) child assault awareness and prevention; (2) litter prevention and awareness; (3) mental health; (4) water safety; (5) internet and cell phone safety; (6) eating disorder and awareness; (7) substance abuse; (8) topics related to freedom for Celebrate Freedom Week	
HB 320	Owen	Repeals certain student instruction and teacher/employee training requirements and authorizes the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt policies requiring the inclusion of certain topics in such instruction and training	
HB 546	Amedee	Requires three years of French language instruction in elementary school, in middle school, and in high school	
HB 647	Romero	Limits instructional requirements and requires the state DOE to establish a database for such requirements	

**K-12 Teaching Profession**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 35	Riser	Authorizes retirees in the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL) who retired after June 30, 2020 to return to work in critical shortage positions without suspension or reduction of their retirement benefits	
HB 420	Bryant	Provides for additional compensation for teachers and other school employees under certain circumstances	
HB 601	Carpenter	Requires principals to notify the parents of any child assigned to the classroom of a temporary, uncertified teacher	
HB 647	Romero	Limits instructional requirements and requires the state DOE to establish a database for such requirements	
SB 205	Miguez	Requires additional compensation for teachers and other school employees under certain circumstances	

**Higher Ed Governance**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 909	Owen	Subjects certain actions of the Board of Regents and public postsecondary education management boards relative to environmental, social, and governance criteria to the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget; prohibits the Bd. of Regents and each public postsecondary education management board from continuing or commencing any activities related to ESG criteria unless it receives the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget; requires each board, prior to Dec. 31st annually, to submit a request to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for approval to continue or commence such activities	
HB 862	Hughes	Authorizes, with limitations, public postsecondary education management boards to establish and increase student tuition and mandatory fees	Reported favorably by Senate Education 5/1; pending Senate
SB 403	Fesi	Provides for gubernatorial appointment of the chairs of the Boards of Supervisors of each system and officers of higher education	

**Other**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 6	Chenevert	(Constitutional Amendment) Provides that any legislatively created school system shall be included in the funding formula for public education (minimum foundation program) and has the constitutionally granted authority to levy ad valorem taxes	

HB 31	Freiberg	Provides relative to the optional retirement plan and defined benefit plan for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana	
HB 143	Bacala	Authorizes the state superintendent to hire a chief operating officer to make recommendations relative to the financial practices of local school systems failing to comply with the MFP's minimum instructional expenditure requirement	
HB 426	Melerine	Allows teachers and other educational professionals to provide academic tutoring services to their students for compensation if the tutoring arrangement, including the use of school facilities, is approved by the employing school board	
HB 550	Amedee	Terminates approval of home study programs by BESE and provides for the authority of parents with respect to home schools	
HB 583	Amedee	Provides for school choice for French language immersion programs for students in grades pre-K-12; requires that if the program ceases despite having 20 students enrolled, the school board shall remit MFP foreign language teacher salary supplement funds to DOE; authorizes parents who submit requests to local school boards to make appeals to BESE; authorizes parents, if school boards do not fulfill the requirements of present law to establish a program, to request approval as a charter school or request École Pointe-au-Chien, L'Academie de la Louisiane, or a Type 2 charter school with an immersion program open a new campus in an area that can serve their children; narrows scope of previously authorized "International School in Lafayette" to French language and changes name to "L'Académie de la Louisiane"; provides L'Académie de la Louisiane is a public French immersion school for students in grades Pre-K-12; provides that the school shall be its own education agency; provides for governance and for state funding; among other provisions	
HB 594	Green	Creates and provides for the Free School Breakfast Program to be administered by the state Department of Education	
HB 622	Bayham	Provides for compulsory school attendance and the definition of a school	
HB 725	LaFleur	Prohibits middle schools from starting earlier than 8:00 a.m. and high schools from starting earlier than 8:30 a.m. beginning with the 2026-2027 school year	BRAC bill; will revert to study resolution
HB 736	Knox	Provides that adjudicated children shall be offered educational services, vocational training, and counseling	
HB 766	Knox	Provides relative to educational benefits for beneficiaries of qualified veterans; increases expenditures, during a period of college or university training, from \$500 to \$1,000 per year	
HB 904	Chenevert	Requires each public school and public postsecondary education institution to report on funding and personnel for programs related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging to the state Dept. of Education or Bd. of Regents, as applicable, and requires the department and board to report to certain legislative committees	
HCR 14	Melerine	Requests that the state Department of Education study the potential effects of alternative school calendar options on student academic achievement	
SB 66	Mizell	Adds the requirement that the minimum school week for grades one through 12 in every public school in the state consist of five consecutive days within a week, except for acknowledged legal holidays	



SB 288	McMath	Provides relative to required high-dosage tutoring for certain students; expands academic support to certain students in grades K-12; provides that failing to achieve mastery on any statewide assessment in reading or math in the previous academic year makes a student eligible for expanded academic support; provides for the criteria of high-dosage tutoring, among other provisions	
SB 314	Barrow	Provides tuition and fee exemptions at public postsecondary education institutions for Louisiana women of a certain age; provides that beginning with the Fall 2024 academic semester or session, women who are eligible for admission and enrollment in a public postsecondary education institution in Louisiana, and who are at least 26 years old and under 46 years old, and who have been domiciled in Louisiana for at least 5 year prior to applying for the exemption, shall be admitted and enrolled in such institution without the payment of any tuition or mandatory fee amount as long as such person meets the academic standards and complies with the rules and regulations of the institution required for enrollment and continues attendance as a full-time student	
SB 363	Coussan	Relative to proprietary schools, changes the minimum years of documented occupational experience required in the area taught from four years to three years	SUPPORT; passed Senate unanimously on 3/20; pending House Education
SB 453	Bass	Makes technical changes to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program	
SCR 11	Reese	Urges Congress to amend federal law to allow states to provide for the consolidation of federally funded workforce development services with federally funded social safety net services	

## Infrastructure Investment

- Support continued progress on the I-49 Lafayette Connector and the larger I-49 South corridor, known as “America’s Energy Corridor”
- Support opportunities and funding to advance revitalization and development in Acadiana’s urban core

### Infrastructure Funding

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 381	Braud	Provides for spending of windfall proceeds from toll collections on public-private partnership (PPP) projects; allows windfall proceeds to be spent by DOTD to do the following: (1) reduce toll rates on the project; (2) to pay amounts owed to the developer for exercising the department's early handback options; (3) to pay any annual consumer price index (CPI) buy-down payment amounts; (4) for department projects or improvements within any area identified in the contract for any alternative facility; (5) for any ways identified in contract amendments to which both parties agree	
HB 826	Emerson	Present law provides for deposit and use of monies into the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund and restricts use of monies in the fund until the minimum balance in the fund is \$5,000,000,000 at the beginning of a fiscal year; proposed law lowers this minimum balance to \$2,200,000,000; present law further provides that once the minimum balance is attained, the legislature may appropriate up to 10% of the fund balance for capital outlay and transportation infrastructure projects; proposed law increases this allowable percentage to 20% of the fund balance	
HB 940	Turner	Authorizes the issuance of not to exceed \$1.681B in bonds to fund deferred maintenance projects included in the College and University Deferred Maintenance Capital Improvement Program	SUPPORT; passed House; pending Senate Education
SB 417	Pressly	Establishes the "Oil and Gas Severance Subfund" within the Parish Transportation Fund; requires the state treasurer to credit to the subfund monies from the avails of state severance taxes on oil and gas based on legislative appropriation; requires the legislature to annually appropriate monies to the subfund equal to at least 5% of the total avails from state severance taxes on oil and gas; requires all monies in the subfund be used to restore and maintain parish roads and bridges affected by the oil and gas industry; requires distribution of monies in the subfund on a pro-rata basis to parish subject to limitations contained in Article VII, Section 4(D)(3) of the constitution	
SB 446	Abraham	Provides restrictions on how the department can use revenue or credits generated in connection with the I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge P3 project	

### Capital Outlay

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 2	Emerson	Provides for the State Capital Outlay budget	Passed House; pending Senate Rev. & Fisc.
HB 3	Emerson	Provides for the Omnibus Bond Act	Passed House; pending Senate Rev. & Fisc.

HB 162	Beaullieu	Limits the withdrawal of monies from the Capital Outlay Savings Fund for capital outlay projects except by a specific appropriation made in a bill enacted by the legislature
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#### **Broadband / Internet Service**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 617	Deshotel	Provides that the office shall have the authority to use any unobligated funds from GUMBO 1.0 as of June 3, 2024 on eligible non-broadband infrastructure project uses defined in the US Treasury document titled "Guidance for the Coronavirus Capital Project Fund, for States, Territories and Freely Associated States" and for uses outlined in proposed law; the office shall promulgate rules and scoring criteria for these funds; adds that if a local government, who has committed to provide matching funds, pursuant to present law, depletes funding before a project is completed, the local government may apply for the remainder of funds to complete the project, among other provisions	
HB 700	Deshotel	Provides relative to broadband; provides that GUMBO 2.0 awards will be made on a fixed-award subgrant basis, following all requirements of NTIA's modifications to the Uniform Guidance as provided by final rule, with an initial 10% disbursement made upon final grant issuance; the next 10% of the subgrant award shall be provided based on provider certification and the office's verification that ten percent of the eligible locations have been reached; the remaining disbursements shall be given at the thresholds of completion of 35%, 60%, 85%, and the final 100% provided only after verification of 100% deployment to eligible locations, all within the mandatory 48 months maximum deployment timeline or another shorter timeline certified by the applicant, among other provisions	
HB 827	Turner	Revises provisions relating to the state and local sales and use tax rebate on the sale of certain fiber-optic cable equipment; defines terms used in connection with the rebate; makes a technical change	
SB 282	Mizell	Makes technical changes relative to the Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities (GUMBO) 2.0 program	
SCR 4	Mizell	Memorializes Congress to support the extension of funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) of 2021, which provides Louisiana residents access to broadband services	

#### **Other**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 286	Braud	Provides residents of a parish with a population less than 25,000 in which a public-private partnership for a bridge replacement is entirely located within the parish to have free and unhampered passage crossing the public-private partnership project bridge	

HB 351	Romero	Present law provides for rapid development of a statewide electric vehicle charging network by improving access to electric vehicle charging amenities, urging the PSC to establish an electric vehicle charging rate structure, and urging the PSC to exclude certain persons or corporations from the definition of a public utility; adds a requirement that public electric vehicle charging facilities be powered by wind or solar energy and not carbon fuel based electricity
HB 457	Davis	Requires just compensation for the exportation of outdoor advertising signs; additionally, requires the issuance of a permit to remove the signage
HB 645	Freiberg	Moves responsibility for the collection of the electric and hybrid vehicle fee from the Department of Revenue to the office of motor vehicles
HB 685	Wright	Creates the La. Port Multimodal Council (LPMC); creates the LPMC to serve as an advocate for all of the state's ports, to articulate a vision for the future of the state's ports through development of a master plan for such development, to provide focus and coordination for the state's efforts to attract international trade to the state's ports, to set funding priorities for the development and growth of the state's ports and its water transportation system, and to leverage the financing capacity of the state's ports through coordinated financing arrangements, among other provisions
SB 73	Womack	Creates and provides for the Community Sewerage System Infrastructure Sustainability Act and provides for legislative intent to develop a community sewerage system accountability process which supports sewerage system infrastructure sustainability for the citizens of Louisiana; provides for application and verification processes, among other provisions
SB 206	McMath	Repeals the Port Development Advisory Commission and references thereto
SB 260	Cloud	Provides for transfer of commercial truck permits from truck to truck within the same company
SB 379	Miguez	Repeals law that doubles fines for speeding on the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge; repeals provisions requiring installation of cameras to monitor speed limit violations; repeals requirements to establish a process for issuance of warrants and citations, repeals the fund created for deposit of files collected to pursuant to violations

## Other

### **State Budget / Fiscal Controls**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 1	McFarland	Provides for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	Passed House; pending Senate Finance
HB 48	Bacala	(Constitutional Amendment) Prohibits consideration of a conference committee report or amendments from the Senate on an appropriations bill until at least 48 hours after the bill, a summary detailing the proposed changes to the bill, and any additional information required by the rules have been distributed to the members of the house considering concurrence	
HB 49	Bacala	(Constitutional Amendment) Allows the legislature, by a two-thirds vote, to extend a regular session in increments of two legislative or calendar days up to a maximum of six calendar days beyond the original sine die adjournment time and date if necessary to pass a bill appropriating money	
HB 287	Hughes	Appropriates supplemental funding for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; provides for net increases in State General Fund (Direct) by \$3,652,670 and Federal funds by \$3,652,670 to provide for the Summer EBT program	
HB 502	Geymann	(Constitutional Amendment) Limits the amount of monies that may be appropriated in a fiscal year; beginning with Fiscal Year 2025-2026, establishes the La. Sustainability Limit to restrict the growth in the total amount of state general fund and dedicated fund monies the legislature may appropriate in any fiscal year to the 10-year average percentage rate of change in the state's gross domestic product (GDP) and to authorize certain uses of any monies in the official forecast that are above the limit and below the expenditure limit	
HB 526	Beaullieu	Provides for changes in calculation of the expenditure limit; proposed constitutional amendment repeals this calculation; requires the legislature to provide for the calculation of the expenditure limit by law.; further provides that if the procedure established by the legislature includes application of a growth factor, such growth factor shall not exceed five percent of the expenditure limit for the year in which the limit is calculated; proposed constitutional amendment provides that, notwithstanding any provision of proposed constitutional amendment to the contrary, the limit for FY 2025-2026 shall equal the actual appropriations from the state general fund and dedicated funds for FY 23-24 plus the product of such amount times three percent, among other provisions	
HB 619	Beaullieu	Changes the procedures for and calculation of the expenditure limit; requires the Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) to adopt, by majority vote, an expenditure limit for the ensuing fiscal year, among other provisions	
HB 709	Geymann	Beginning with Fiscal Year 2025-2026, establishes the La. sustainability limit (sustainability limit) to restrict the growth in the total amount of state general fund and dedicated fund monies the legislature may appropriate in any fiscal year to the 10-year average percentage rate of change in the state's gross domestic product (GDP) and provides for uses of any recognized revenues above the sustainability limit and below the expenditure limit	
HB 782	McFarland	Makes supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Passed House; pending Senate Finance

HB 786	McFarland	Transfers 25% of the FY 2022-2023 surplus (\$81,359,358) to the Budget Stabilization Fund	Passed House; pending Senate Finance
HCR 21	Schlegel	Provides for legislative approval of the MFP formula for FY 2024-2025	Reported favorably House Education 4/16; pending House Approps
HCR 43	Emerson	Authorizes an appropriation of up to \$400,000,000 from the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund to address emergency conditions that threaten the lives, property, and safety of the citizens of the state as the result of a statewide law enforcement personnel shortage;	
SB 27	Womack	Creates the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Reserve Fund as a special fund in the state treasury; any money transferred, donated, or appropriated to the fund by the legislature shall be deposited into the fund; provides that the monies in the fund shall remain in the fund at the end of the fiscal year and interest earned on the investment of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund; provides that monies shall only be withdrawn from the fund by appropriation by the legislature	
SB 209	Duplessis	Provides that, beginning in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the state hospitals, or their successor state agencies, are hereby authorized and directed to deposit into the state treasury all receipts from lease or rental payments for the lease of hospital buildings, facilities, or equipment. The receipts shall be classified and considered as fees and self-generated revenues available for appropriation to the Louisiana Department of Health as recognized by the Revenue Estimating Conference	
SB 297	Cloud	Creates the Fiscal Utilization Fund as a special fund in the state treasury; any money transferred, donated, or appropriated to the fund by the legislature shall be deposited into the fund; provides that the monies in the fund shall remain in the fund at the end of the fiscal year and interest earned on the investment of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund; provides that monies shall only be withdrawn from the fund by appropriation by the legislature	

#### ***Constitutional Convention***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 800	Beaullieu	Calls a constitutional convention to convene on May 20, 2024, to be composed of 171 delegates, who are the 105 members of the House of Representatives, the 39 members of the Senate, and 27 delegates appointed by the governor. Requires the convention to complete a new constitution by July 15, 2024	Reported favorably by House & Gov. and House Approps.; sched. for House 5/7

#### ***Retirement Systems***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 17	Owen	Provides for reemployment of contract or corporate contract teachers in the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL); allows TRSL retirees to be reemployed through a contract or corporate contract without any suspension of their retirement benefit; requires that any cost of proposed law be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with the state constitution	
HB 22	Adams	Provides for purchase of higher accrual rate at the time of retirement for members who transferred into the Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS)	

HB 30	Bagley	Provides relative to eligibility for retirement in the La. State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)
HB 35	Riser	Authorizes retirees in the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL) who retired after June 30, 2020 to return to work in critical shortage positions without suspension or reduction of their retirement benefits
HB 902	Melerine	Requires fiduciaries for public retirement systems to make investment decisions based solely on financial factors
SB 5	Miguez	Requires fiduciaries for public retirement systems to make investment decisions based solely on financial factors

#### ***Local / Regional Significance***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 142	Beaulieu	Authorizes the Iberia Economic Development Authority to enter into leases having a term not to exceed 99 years in the aggregate	
HB 273	Schamerhorn	(Constitutional Amendment) Provides term limits for parish presidents, mayors, and parish and municipal governing authorities	
HB 461	Jackson	Provides for confidentiality of certain information regarding active economic development negotiations involving a local government for no more than 24 months under certain circumstances	
HB 591	Lyons	Prohibits a local governing authority from regulating the operation of an online marketplace	
HB 596	Deshotel	Provides procedures regarding the method of electing home rule charter commissions	
HB 634	Freiberg	Provides for uses of sales and use tax revenue collected on admission to certain events in certain parishes; authorizes governing authority of a parish w/ a population of more than 100,000, subject to the recommendation of the parish convention and visitors bureau, to rebate revenue from city or parish sales and use taxes collected on the sale of admission tickets to an event that meets one of the following: (1) it was held in a publicly owned facility that has a seating capacity of at least 7,500; (2) it was a multiday event with average daily attendance of at least 7,500, among other provisions	
HB 657	Amedee	Increases the membership of the Council for the Development of French in La. (CODOFIL) and expands the powers, duties, functions, and reporting responsibilities of the council	
HB 667	Jordan	Removes municipal police departments from the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service systems	
HB 674	Bryant	Authorizes a local governing authority to adopt ordinances to address blighted property with purported collector's automobiles	
HB 680	Carlson	Provides relative to an alternate official journal for certain purposes; authorizes the official website of the clerk of court's office in the respective parish to be used as the official journal for such purposes and authorizes the clerk of court's office to charge for publishing information on its website; authorizes the secretary of state's website to be used as the official journal for such purposes and authorizes the secretary of state to charge for publishing information on its website	
HB 717	Domangue	Provides relative to the Louisiana French Commerce Act	
HB 761	LaCombe	Authorizes certain municipalities to create tax increment financing districts; authorizes any municipality with a population of between 1,525 and 1,600 to create a taxing district to provide for cooperative economic development to provide for the redevelopment of blighted property into a conference style hotel and related facilities	

HB 836	McFarland	For purposes of laws requiring State Bond Commission approval of debt that local governments and other political subdivisions seek to incur, excludes from the definition of "debt" certain concession agreements and other obligations not required to be categorized as long-term debt per the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)
HB 881	Beaulieu	Changes the membership of the Council for the Development of French in La. (CODOFIL)
HB 927	Selders	Prohibits a parish or municipality from requiring certain persons to acquire a permit with respect to the transfer of electric services provided by an authorized utility provider
HR 42	Beaulieu	Commends McIlhenny Company in Iberia Parish for more than one hundred fifty years of service as a family-owned Louisiana business
SB 94	Coussan	Provides for the administrative procedures for approving or certifying certain plats in Lafayette Parish
SB 121	Coussan	Provides for the jurisdictional limits for the city courts located in the 15th judicial district; increases the civil jurisdictional amount from \$20,000 to \$35,000 for the City Court of Lafayette; increases the civil jurisdictional amount from \$30,000 to \$35,000 for the City Court of Crowley and the City Court of Rayne
SB 201	Coussan	Provides for the creation of the Cajundome Commission; continues the existence of the commission upon expiration of the intergovernmental contract, and to prevent any disruption to the management, operation, or maintenance of the Cajundome or the rights, benefits, debts, or obligations of the presently existing commission, among other provisions
SB 390	Boudreaux	Provides for the collection of utility fees for the stormwater management utility districts in St. Landry Parish
SB 410	Coussan	Provides for the board membership of the Louisiana Energy and Power Authority; provides that an ordinance to increase the membership of the board of directors of the Louisiana Energy and Power Authority must be adopted and approved by a majority of members of the board of directors
SB 478	Boudreaux	Provides for Lafayette Consolidated Government Employees retirement amortization
SB 480	Boudreaux	Provides for the powers and functions of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority
SB 481	Boudreaux	Provides for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Economic Development District

#### ***Minimum Wage***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 290	Marcelle	Establishes a state minimum wage and sets it at \$10 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2025; provides that the state minimum wage shall be \$12 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2026; requires that if the federal minimum wage is raised, the state minimum wage shall also be raised to that level, among other provisions	
HB 431	Boyd	Establishes a state minimum wage rate and sets it at \$10 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2025; provides that the state minimum wage shall be \$12 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2027; provides that the state minimum wage shall be \$14 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2029; requires that if the federal minimum wage is raised, the state minimum wage shall also be raised to that level, among other provisions	



SB 173	Carter	Provides relative to the state minimum wage; establishes a state minimum wage and sets it at \$10.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2025; provides that the state minimum wage shall be \$12.00 per hour beginning on January 1, 2027; provides that the state minimum wage shall be \$14.00 per hour beginning on January 1, 2029; provides that if the federal minimum wage is raised, the state minimum wage shall also be raised to that level, among other provisions
SB 180	Barrow	(Constitutional Amendment) Establishes a state minimum wage; proposed constitutional amendment sets the state minimum hourly wage rate at \$10.25; proposed constitutional amendment provides an effective date of January 1, 2025; provides that the state minimum wage rate will be increased by rate of inflation for the 12-month period prior to that September according to the Consumer Price Index or its successor index; provides exceptions for employers whose employees are tipped employees, family members, or mental or physically disabled

### **Workers' Compensation**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 198	Echols	Provides for the adoption of a medical fee reimbursement schedule for workers' compensation claims	
HB 200	Melerine	Prohibits an insurer from recovering past payments of workers' compensation premiums from an insured	
HB 360	Melerine	Repeals the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	
HB 529	Crews	Redefines the term "wages" and provides relative to the determination of the average weekly wage amount earned by a workers' compensation claimant	
HB 556	Glorioso	Provides relative to an injury producing the permanent total disability of an employee	
HB 618	Beaullieu	Provides relative to accident reporting and access to medical records and information related to claims	
HB 668	Melerine	Provides relative to temporary total and partial disability benefits	
HB 703	Melerine	Provides relative to Workers' Compensation, including controversion of benefits, preliminary determination hearings, disputed claims, and penalties and attorney fees	
HB 764	Taylor	Provides relative to the defense of compensability or causation for medical treatments in workers' compensation claims	
HB 765	Taylor	Provides for a rebuttable presumption of compensability in workers' compensation cases	
HB 769	Riser	Creates civil liability for the denial of compensability for healthcare benefits in workers' compensation claims	
HB 870	Echols	Provides for adoption of a medical fee reimbursement schedule for workers' compensation	
SB 315	Seabaugh	Provides relative to benefits and period of disability	
SB 319	Seabaugh	Provides relative to workers' compensation penalties and attorney fees	
SB 324	Reese	Provides relative to accident reporting and access to medical records and information related to workers' compensation claims	

SB 366	Stine	Provides relative to the workers' compensation weekly wage
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**Labor Relations**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 87	Echols	Provides that an employer or school is liable for damages in mandating that its employees or students receive a COVID-19 vaccination	OPPOSE; passed House; pending Senate Jud A
HB 118	Newell	Provides relative to pre-dispute arbitration agreements concerning claims or accusations involving sexual harassment in the workplace	
HB 156	Wilder	Repeals the provision of law that provides for recreation or meal periods for minors	
HB 161	Bayham	Provides that a nondisclosure agreement does not apply in sexual harassment cases or in a hostile work environment	
HB 200	Melerine	Prohibits an insurer from recovering past payments of workers' compensation premiums from an insured	
HB 360	Melerine	Repeals the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	
HB 523	Wilder	Provides relative to the election of a collective bargaining representative	
HB 571	Crews	Provides relative to certain designated labor organization activities in employment contracts	
HB 572	Crews	Prohibits collective bargaining for public officers and employees	
HB 712	Crews	Provides relative to the resignation from labor organizations for teachers and other school employees and the collection of membership dues for political activities	
HB 785	Schamerhorn	Provides no individual shall have cause of action against an owner, lessor, or operator of a commercial motor vehicle, or a person renting / leasing for failure to install optional equip.; provides exception for vehicles involved in an accident after failure to comply with a law requiring a mandatory recall	
SB 109	Seabaugh	Repeals provisions for meal intervals and breaks for minor employees	
SB 174	Carter	Provides relative to employment practices related to wage history, wage disclosure, and retaliation	
SB 263	Seabaugh	Provides for payroll deductions for school employees for certain purposes; prohibits the dues to be used for political activity, among other provisions	
SB 264	Seabaugh	Provides for certain payroll deductions for labor organizations from compensation paid to public employees	
SB 292	Seabaugh	Creates recertification requirements for public employee labor organizations	
SB 299	Seabaugh	Provides that labor unions and other employee associations cannot be recognized as collective bargaining or meet and confer agents for the purpose of entering into collective bargaining contracts or memorandums	
SB 317	Stine	Provides relative to the final payment after termination of employment	
SB 331	Seabaugh	Provides relative to authorized payroll withholdings for public employees	

**Unemployment Compensation**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 119	Romero	Provides for a decrease in the duration of unemployment compensation benefits and provides for extended benefits for claimants; changes the number of weeks during a 12-month period that an eligible individual shall be entitled to receive unemployment compensation benefits from 26 weeks to 20 weeks, among other provisions	
HB 247	Echols	Provides for penalties for the acceptance of overpayments of unemployment benefits	

**Criminal Justice / Reentry**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 578	Lyons	Creates the Back on Track Youth Pilot Program with the express purpose of giving juveniles an option other than some form of criminal activity; Provides that within this program, juveniles shall be able to participate in program that include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) occupational or vocational training; (2) life skills; (3) healthy choices; (4) literacy instruction; provides that this program shall be administered by selected nonprofit groups as well as the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, the Dept. of Children and Family Services, the Dept. of Education, the La. Workforce Commission, and the Dept. of Veterans Affairs; provides for eligibility criteria	
HR 12	Freeman	Continues the task force created in the 2023 Regular Session pursuant to HR 174 to study both the academic and vocational educational programs within prisons and jails in La.; requires the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature on or before March 1, 2025	
SB 251	Barrow	Provides relative to educational programs provided by correctional facilities; present law provides that the Secretary of DPSC must establish programs such as vocational training, education, and more, as are consistent with available resources; adds that, at minimum, each DPSC adult detention facility must offer a general equivalency diploma (GED) training program and at least one vocational training program as optional programs for inmates	

**Agriculture / Fisheries**

Bill #	Author	Legislative Summary	Notes
HB 134	Romero	Provides relative to the regulation of fuel used in agricultural machinery; prohibits regulations by any local government that create differing standards for fuel used in agricultural machinery from other fuel or agricultural machinery	
HB 238	Echols	Restricts ownership of agricultural lands by foreign adversaries	
HB 240	Romero	Provides fees for subsequent inspections and changes the penalty structure of the Louisiana Weights and Measures Law	
HB 460	Kerner	Allows full size trawl gear for bait shrimp on permitted vessels	
HB 676	Kerner	Requires any wholesale/retail dealer or retail dealer that imports seafood to obtain an additional seafood importer license, establishes fees for the licenses, and allocates license fees to the Conservation Fund and the Imported Seafood Safety Fund	

HB 693	Bayham	Requires any wholesale/retail dealer or retail dealer that imports seafood to obtain an additional a seafood importer license, establishes fees for the license, and allocates fees to the Imported Seafood Safety Fund
HB 748	Domangue	Modifies the imported seafood safety fee assessed to commercial seafood processors and distributors from a flat fee of \$100 annually to 0.1% of the gross revenue of a processor or distributor
HB 920	Brown	Transfers jurisdiction of commercial crawfish harvesters from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to the Department of Agriculture
HCR 9	Kerner	Memorializes Congress to impose a quota or tariff on imported shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish and to enact a buy plan for domestic shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish
HCR 10	Kerner	Memorializes Congress to compel the United States Food and Drug Administration to fulfill its duties regarding inspection and testing of imported seafood
SB 81	Allain	Provides for prescribed burning by non-certified prescribed burn managers
SB 117	Jackson-Andrews	Creates the Agricultural Meteorology Program; provides that the legislature finds that federal programs of disaster assistance rely on meteorological data; provides that the purpose of the program is to collect and transmit weather statistics and meteorological data to federal and state agencies
SB 287	Duplessis	Provides relative to the Healthy Food Retail Act

#### ***Environmental Quality***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
SB 275	Lambert	Creates the Louisiana Community Air Monitoring Reliability Act to establish standards for monitoring programs conducted by non-government entities; provides for data collection on certain pollutants under National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as provided in federal law; provides that the department may consider necessary actions consistent with the federal Clean Air Act when a community is found to be in noncompliance with NAAQS, and the department may use data collected to determine the need for additional safeguards, among other provisions	

#### ***Governmental Affairs***

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Legislative Summary</b>	<b>Notes</b>
HB 566	McMakin	Prohibits the requirement of a baccalaureate degree for employment with a state agency; does not apply if the knowledge, skills, or abilities required for the position for which an applicant is applying can only reasonably be obtained, as determined by the appointing authority, through a course of study in pursuit of, and culminating in the award of, a baccalaureate degree	BRAC bill
HB 771	Jordan	Provides for the redistricting of the La. House of Representatives	