2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 475

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS

ETHICS/NEPOTISM: Provides relative to the deadline for filing disclosures of the employment of an immediate family member of a school board member or school superintendent

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(iii), relative to nepotism; to provide relative to family members of school board members and school district superintendents who are employed by the school board; to provide relative to the deadline for disclosing information regarding such employment to the Board of Ethics; to provide relative to penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(iii) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1119. Nepotism

* * *

B.

* * *

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection:

(a)

* * *

(iii) In addition, ~~within thirty days after the beginning~~ by September fifteenth of each school year, any school board member or superintendent whose immediate family member is employed by the school board shall file a disclosure statement with



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the Board of Ethics stating the facts of such employment. Any person who fails to timely file a disclosure statement under this Item may be assessed a late fee of fifty dollars per day, not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars, subject to the provisions of R.S. 42:1157.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 475 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Thomas

**Abstract:** Provides relative to disclosures to the Bd. of Ethics regarding school board employees who are family members of school board members or school district superintendents.

Present law prohibits an agency head from employing a member of his immediate family in his agency and prohibits a governmental entity from employing an immediate family member of a member of the governing authority or of the chief executive of the governmental entity.

Present law provides an exception that authorizes a local school board to employ any member of the immediate family of a board member or of the school district superintendent as a classroom teacher if the family member is certified to teach or is temporarily authorized to teach while pursuing certification. Present law provides other specific exceptions relating to employment of family members by school boards.

Present law requires that, within 30 days after the beginning of each school year, a school board member or superintendent whose immediate family member is employed by the school board shall file a disclosure statement with the Bd. of Ethics stating the facts of such employment.

Proposed law retains present law except to change the deadline for filing such disclosures to Sept. 15th of each year.

Present law, retained by proposed law, provides that a person who fails to timely file a disclosure statement may be assessed a late fee of $50 per day, not to exceed $1500.

(Amends R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(iii))



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