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## DIGEST

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HB 7 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Gregory Miller

**Abstract:** Removes the requirement that the statement required to be filed by an elected official who receives any thing of economic value for assisting a person in certain transactions with his governmental entity or its officials or agencies be sworn; provides instead for a certification by the elected official that the statement is true and correct.

Present law (R.S. 42:1111(E)(2)) provides that no elected official of a governmental entity shall receive or agree to receive any thing of economic value for assisting a person in a transaction or in an appearance in connection with a transaction with the governmental entity or its officials or agencies, unless he files a sworn written statement with the Bd. of Ethics prior to or within 10 days after initial assistance is rendered. Present law excludes ministerial transactions from this requirement.

Present law provides that the contents of the statement shall be prescribed by the board, provides that the statement shall be a public record, and requires the board to review all the statements, and if it determines a statement to be deficient or suggest a violation of the ethics code, the board shall notify the official of its findings. Provides that the notification is confidential and privileged and made public only in connection with a public hearing for a relevant violation of the code.

Proposed law removes the requirement that the statement be sworn. Provides instead that it include a certification by the elected official filing it that the information contained in the statement is true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief. Otherwise retains present law.

Effective January 1, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 42:1111(E)(2))