HLS 161ES-243 ENGROSSED

2016 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 111

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BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

FUNDS/FUNDING: To eliminate the Debt Recovery Fund (Item #7)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:8(B) and R.S. 47:1676(E)(1) and to repeal R.S. 47:1676(E)(2)

and (3), relative to the elimination of the Debt Recovery Fund; to provide for the elimination of the Debt Recovery Fund; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:8(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

\$8. Final delinquent debt; office of motor vehicles

* * * *

B. The office of motor vehicles shall refer all final delinquent debts to the office of debt recovery as provided in R.S. 47:1676. Final delinquent debt referrals shall include data and information in the required format necessary to institute collection procedures. All delinquent debts shall be authenticated by the office of motor vehicles prior to being referred to the office of debt recovery. Once the delinquent debt becomes final, and prior to referral to the office of debt recovery, the office of motor vehicles shall notify the debtor in writing that failure to pay the debt in full within sixty days shall subject the debt to the maximum amount owed together with the additional fee collected by the office of debt recovery provided for in R.S. 47:1676. All funds collected pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall be deposited into the Debt Recovery Fund and utilized for the office of state police in the amount of twenty-five million dollars.

Page 1 of 3

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

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Section 2. R.S. 47:1676(E)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §1676. Debt recovery

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E.(1) The office shall charge the debtor a fee not to exceed twenty-five percent of the total liability of debt which has become final after the initial effective date of this Section. The amount of the fee shall be established by rule promulgated by the department and shall be uniformly applied to all debts. Fees collected under this Subsection shall be retained by the office after the debt is collected and shall be divided in accordance with an agreement between the office and the office of the attorney general after payment of costs set forth in the agreement. Monies collected by the office pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be transferred to the Debt Recovery Fund referring agency within thirty days after the end of the month in which the monies were collected and shall be used by the referring agency as they would have been had they been timely collected. However, any monies collected for delinquent debt as a result of nonpayment of tax liabilities pursuant to Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, after deposit into the state general fund, the first five million dollars shall be appropriated by the legislature beginning in Fiscal Year 2013-2014, and for four consecutive fiscal years thereafter, to the office of state police for a training academy class.

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Section 3. R.S. 47:1676(E)(2) and (3) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

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)]

HB 111 Engrossed

2016 First Extraordinary Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Eliminates the Debt Recovery Fund. Provides that monies in the fund will revert to the agency which referred the debt.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, to collect certain fees related to suspension of an operator's license (R.S. 32:57.1) and automobile insurance requirement violations (R.S. 32:863 and 863.1). Further provides that such fees are due within 60 days of the date of the notice to pay these fees and that after 60 days these fees shall be considered final delinquent debt.

<u>Present law</u> requires the office of motor vehicles to refer all final delinquent debt to the office of debt recovery within the Dept. of Revenue for collection.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the deposit of monies from the collection of delinquent debt by the office of debt recovery be deposited into the Debt Recovery Fund. After satisfying warrants drawn upon the fund for the return of nonstate monies, unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain in the fund unless appropriated.

<u>Proposed law</u> eliminates the Debt Recovery Fund and requires that monies collected by the office of debt recovery be transferred to the state agency which referred delinquent debt to the office of debt recovery for collection within 30 days of the collection.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 32:8(B) and R.S. 47:1676(E)(1); Repeals R.S. 47:1676(E)(2) and (3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Appropriations</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

1. Delete provision which would nullify <u>present law</u> appropriation contained in HB 2 (Act 26) of the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature.