

2026 Legislative Acts of Interest

Act 113 (HB 61 – Bayham) allows the Governor or local governing authorities to declare the Battle of New Orleans a holiday on January 8.

Act 274 (HB 514 – Farnum & Chassion) presents a constitutional amendment to the voters on November 3 which would allow parishes or municipalities (after a vote by the public) to increase the homestead exemption, thereby reducing the collection of ad valorem taxes, a portion of which is paid to the retirement systems.

Act 592 (SB 47 – Mizell) adds new information required to be reported to the Commissioner of Administration's website for boards and commissions, including:

- phone numbers of at least two contacts of the Board, including the Chair and the Executive Director,
- email addresses for each board member, and
- phone number for the Board.

NOTE: The original bill required the direct phone number of each board member.

Act 799 (HB 398 – Zeringue) sets out limits for reimbursement for the cost of meals when certain government officials travel. For executive branch officials, reimbursement shall not exceed the maximum daily rates established by the United States General Services Administration. Higher reimbursement is allowed during a state of disaster or emergency.

NOTE: The MERS Travel Policy states that reimbursement shall not exceed the rates in the LA Travel Guide published by the Division of Administration so this limit would also apply to MERS. The standard reimbursement rate for meals is \$68/day. In New Orleans the rate is \$80/day.)

Act 867 (HB 1049 – Owen) provides that notices of public meetings must be posted in a manner that the notice may be read by the public. Also, requires that a draft copy of the minutes be provided to the members of the public body at least five business days before the minutes will be considered for approval.

SR 141 (Hodges) Urges and requests state* retirement systems to report holdings in companies or entities domiciled in China or subject to control of the Chinese government, its military, or its Communist Party.

*MERS is a statewide, rather than a state, system.