

1 To enact R.S. 13:5726.1 and to repeal R.S. 13:5726 relative to the
2 coroner of St. Tammany Parish; to require the governing authority of St. Tammany
3 Parish to collect certain tax revenues levied for purposes of the St. Tammany Parish
4 coroner's office; to require all collected revenues to be deposited into a special account
5 for designated use; to require the governing authority to establish an annual salary for the
6 St. Tammany Parish coroner; ~~to require the governing authority to establish the salaries~~
7 ~~of employees of the coroner's office~~; to provide for certain responsibilities of the
8 governing authority relative to the use of the tax proceeds; to provide for an effective
9 date; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 13:5726.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §5726.1. St. Tammany Parish; coroner; powers and duties; compensation of coroner
13 and employees

14 A. The governing authority of St. Tammany Parish shall receive all tax revenues
15 collected from the ad valorem tax levied by St. Tammany Parish for coroner purposes
16 and approved by a majority of the electors of the parish at an election held for that
17 purpose on November 2, 2004, including any extensions or renewals thereof. The St.
18 Tammany Parish coroner's office shall transfer any and all funds on hand received from
19 the ad valorem tax to the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish, less and except
20 amounts needed for operation for the remainder of calendar year 2024, with the amount
21 being determined by the St. Tammany Parish Department of Finance. ~~Any contracts or~~
22 ~~purchase agreements entered into by the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office shall~~
23 ~~require approval or ratification by the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish.~~

24 B. The revenues collected by the governing authority pursuant to Subsection A of this
25 Section shall be deposited into a special account and expended solely for the purposes set
26 forth in the ad valorem tax proposition approved by the voters on November 2, 2004, less
27 and except St. Tammany Parish's administrative fees, costs associated with
28 administration of the ad valorem tax levied, St Tammany Parish's costs associated with
29 oversight of the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office, and amounts necessary to service

1 bonds or other debt obligations secured by the ad valorem tax. St. Tammany Parish shall
2 be deemed to have fully and completely met its obligations to fund the St. Tammany
3 Parish coroner's office as set forth in R.S. 13:5706 and 5710 for the life of the ad valorem
4 tax. Until the expiration of the ad valorem tax, and notwithstanding any provisions of
5 law to the contrary, St. Tammany Parish shall not be obligated to pay any
6 other fee or cost and all obligations to the coroner are limited as provided for in this
7 Subsection.

8 C.(1) All salaries or fees associated with the operation of the coroner's office shall be
9 funded and paid from revenues collected pursuant to Subsection A of this Section.

10 (2) An annual salary shall be established by the governing authority of the parish of St.
11 Tammany to be paid to the coroner in lieu of all fees for his services as parish coroner, ex
12 officio parish physician, or health officer. The salary shall be the average of the salaries
13 of the St. Tammany Parish sheriff, assessor, and clerk.

14 (3) ~~The governing authority~~ coroner shall ~~also~~ establish an annual salary for the deputy or
15 assistant coroners, secretaries, stenographers, clerks, technicians, investigators, official
16 photographers, or other employees.

17 D. Within six months of the effective date of this Section, the governing authority of St.
18 Tammany Parish and the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office shall enter into a restated
19 cooperative endeavor agreement, including but not limited to the following provisions:

20 (1) Requiring use of all tax revenues in strict conformity with the tax proposition
21 approved by the voters.

22 (2) Requiring compliance with public bid and procurement laws.

23 Section 2. R.S.13:5726 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

24 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
25 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without
26 signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of
27 Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this
28 Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

29

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: