

Democracy Protection Bills/Instruments, 2025 Legislative Session (updated 6/12/2025)

Committee	Bill Number	Author, Party & District	Summay	LWVLA Position
House & Governmental Affairs	<a href="#">HB160</a>	Kellee Dickerson (R-East Baton Rouge, Livingston)	ETHICS: Provides relative to ethics complaints	<p><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Current Status: Subject to call - Senate final passage</p> <p><b>League Position:</b> The League supports both government ethics and citizen rights as essential to Representative Government. This bill risks having a chilling effect on citizen's filing complaints about violations of government ethics by removing confidentiality, and in the original version by requiring that citizens travel to the capital to file complaints in person.</p>
House Judiciary	<a href="#">HB307</a>	Chance Henry (R-Acadia)	<p>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: Requires individuals requesting public assistance who are not United States citizens be reported to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement</p> <p><b>News Articles:</b>  <a href="https://www.wwno.org/2025-04-25/louisiana-republicans-introduce-slew-of-bills-targeting-immigrants">https://www.wwno.org/2025-04-25/louisiana-republicans-introduce-slew-of-bills-targeting-immigrants</a> </p>	<p><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Current Status: Sent to Governor House Vote: 73-12 Senate Vote: 27-10</p> <p><b>League Position:</b> The League supports public assistance programs under its position on Meeting Basic Human Needs. While immigrants are generally not eligible to receive federal and state public benefits, some may become eligible when they have held Legal Permanent Resident status for five</p>

				years and other are eligible for benefits that are necessary to protect life or guarantee safety in emergency situations or if they are refugees claiming asylum. We are concerned that mandatory reporting could lead to precipitous and possibly unwarranted deportation and family separation for which Louisiana is, regrettably, becoming a center of activity.
<b>House &amp; Governmental Affairs</b>	<a href="#">HB674</a>	Beau Beaulieu (R-Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin)	ETHICS/CODE: Provides for revisions to the Code of Governmental Ethics	<p><b>WATCHING</b></p> <p><b>Current Status:</b> Sent to Governor</p> <p>House Vote: 96-0 Senate Vote: 34-2 House Vote: 92-1</p> <p><b>League Position:</b> The League supports strong government ethics rule as essential to transparency and accountability in a Representative Government. LWVLA has concerns about the general loosening up of ethics rules that elements of this bill represent, particularly in the context of ongoing ethics investigations of certain state officials. Modifications to the original version's loosening of restrictions on officials' receipt of travel and gifts may still be too lax and raise questions about Money in Politics. There was not enough debate by legislators as the</p>

				bill moved through the legislature, which reduces public trust in its provisions.
<b>Senate &amp; Governmental Affairs</b>	<a href="#">SB8</a>	John C. ("Jay") Morris (R-)	<p>CIVIL SERVICE: Constitutional amendment to provide for persons in the unclassified service and for appointment of persons on the State Civil Service Commission. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))</p> <p><i>News Coverage:</i>  <a href="#">State employees' civil service protections in doubt as constitutional amendment advances</a> (LA Illuminator, 6/9/25)</p> <p><a href="#">Letters: Let's keep politics out of civil service</a> (LTE, The Advocate, 6/9/25)</p> <p><a href="#">Letters: Civil service protections exist for a reason; don't throw them out</a> (***)LEAGUE LTE, The Advocate, 5/19/25)</p>	<p><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Current Status: Sent to the Secretary of State - Act 223</p> <p>Senate Vote: 28-9 House Vote: 70-28 Senate Vote: 28-8</p> <p><b>League Position:</b> LWVLA recently considered the value of Louisiana's civil service at its 2025 Convention on the theme of "Serving Democracy: The Value of Nonpartisan Civil Service." Louisiana has a particular history of civil servants lacking protection from arbitrary firing and/or being subjected to retaliation for taking actions and positions opposed by those in power. At times, the system devolved into political patronage, making its reform and the strong protections that Louisiana's civil service workers enjoy a point of pride for the state. We oppose declassification, unclassification, and other schemes that would remove these protections and expose civil servants to risks for their conscientious conduct of the work of the state in the public's interest</p>

				and in accordance with their professional and ethical duties.
<b>Senate &amp; Governmental Affairs</b>	<a href="#"><u>SB15</u></a>	John C. (“Jay”) Morris (R-)	<p>CRIME/PUNISHMENT: Prohibit any act intended to hinder, delay, prevent, or otherwise interfere with or thwart federal immigration enforcement efforts. (8/1/25) (OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX)</p> <p><i>News Coverage:</i>  <a href="#"><u>Louisiana clergy may face state obstruction charges under immigration bill</u></a> (Gambit, 3/27/25)</p> <p><a href="#"><u>As Trump cracks down on illegal immigration, here's how Louisiana law enforcement is involved</u></a> (NOLA.com, 4/7/25)</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Louisiana Republicans introduce slew of bills targeting immigrants</u></a> (WGNO, 4/25/25)</p> <p><i>Recommended Reading:</i>  <a href="#"><u>LWVUS Joins Letter Urging Congress to Oppose Denial of Federal Funding to Sanctuary Cities</u></a> (LWVUS, 9/17/24)</p>	<p><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Current Status: Sent to Governor</p> <p>Senate Vote: 28-9 House Vote: 71-30 Senate Vote: 28-10</p> <p><i>League Position:</i> Many members of the League and allied groups have serious concerns about Louisiana becoming a destination for detaining immigrants in private prisons. League members and allies participate in a range of activities to protest unjust treatment of migrants and to provide aid and support to migrants while in detention and upon their release. Many of these migration assistance activists are members of churches and other religious organizations who espouse religious and ethical values of sanctuary and welcoming of the stranger. To the extent that this bill, if enacted, could be used to interfere with such activities, we oppose it as a violation of our constitutional and civil rights of free speech, free association, and freedom of religion.</p>