



Byron P. Decoteau, Jr., Director

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GENERAL CIRCULAR NUMBER 2022-026

DATE: July 7, 2022

TO: Heads of State Agencies and Human Resources Directors

SUBJECT: Resolution Adopted Addressing Constitutional Amendment

The State Civil Service Commission adopted a resolution (see attached) at its Regular Business Meeting on July 6, 2022, addressing Act No. 156 of the 2021 Regular Session, which calls for a constitutional amendment allowing the political support for immediate family members of classified employees.

The resolution resolves that the State Civil Service Commission reaffirms its support for the original language of Article X, Section 9 – Prohibitions Against Political Activities, of the Louisiana Constitution.

Information on the “do’s and don’ts” of political activity for classified employees can be found in [General Circular 2022-012](#).

Sincerely,

s/Byron P. Decoteau, Jr.
State Civil Service Director



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Louisiana
State Civil Service
Commission

Resolution

- WHEREAS,** Article X, Section 9 of the state constitution provides for prohibitions against political activities for state classified employees, specifically prohibiting such employees from participating in political activity, which is defined as an effort to support or oppose the election of a candidate for political office or to support a particular political party in an election; and
- WHEREAS,** the provisions of Article X, Section 9 and accompanying Civil Service Rule 14.1(e) have long provided classified employees stability and protection from undue political influence throughout political elections; and
- WHEREAS,** Act No. 156 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature provides for a constitutional amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 8, 2022; and
- WHEREAS,** such proposed constitutional amendment will be printed as a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows: “Do you support an amendment to allow classified civil service employees to support the election to public office of members of their own families?”; and
- WHEREAS,** If the electors pass such constitutional amendment, the political support of classified employees’ immediate family members would be allowed. “Immediate family” is defined to mean a person's parent, his stepparent, his grandparent or stepgrandparent, his spouse and his spouse's parent or stepparent, his child and his child's spouse, his stepchild and his stepchild's spouse, his grandchild and his grandchild's spouse, his stepgrandchild and his stepgrandchild's spouse, his sibling and his sibling's spouse, his stepsibling and his stepsibling's spouse, and his half-sibling and his half-sibling's spouse. The proposed amendment defines “support” to mean attending events and appearing in campaign advertisements and photographs. The proposed amendment excludes employees of the registrars of voters and employees of the elections division of the Dept. of State who are in the classified service; and



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WHEREAS,

The Commission senses the proposed definition of "immediate family" is too broad and could lead to employment conflicts for classified employees during political elections.

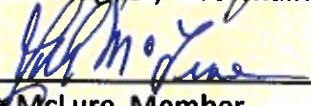
THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Civil Service Commission does hereby reaffirm its support for the original language of Article X, Section 9 of state constitution and its retention.

Signed this 10th day of July, 2022.



D. Scott Hughes, Vice-Chairman



John McLure, Member



Ronald Carrere, Member

Absent

G. Lee Griffin, Member



Kristi Folse, Member



Jo Ann Nixon, Member



David Duplantier, Chairman