



Write Louisiana's Comeback Story

A Jobs and Opportunity Agenda for Louisiana

It's time to write Louisiana's Comeback Story. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit our shores, Louisiana faced significant challenges: fewer jobs, outmigration, and a stagnant economy. Now, especially in light of the most mobile workforce in America's history, we must not just recover, but seize an urgent and unique opportunity to turn the page and create a Louisiana in which everyone can thrive.



Simplify the tax code.

The complexity of Louisiana's tax code drives jobs and opportunity to other states. Pelican's revenue-neutral plan would restructure both corporate and individual income taxes to create a tax code that is dramatically simpler, is less tied to the federal government, and fosters quality job creation and economic growth.



Rein in state spending.

HB 273 by Rep. Beau Beaulieu

Louisiana's spending has grown while our population has decreased, and economic growth indicators have remained flat, at best. A meaningful expenditure limit will ensure government lives within its means by constraining growth in spending to measures of population, personal income, economic activity, and inflation growth.



Make every taxpayer education dollar transparent.

HB 38 by Rep. Rick Edmonds

Despite spending more per student in the region, Louisiana ranks behind all its neighbors in both student outcomes and teacher pay. Every taxpayer dollar spent in Louisiana should be fully transparent, easily accessible, and accountable to citizens.



Empower foster kids to attend a school that fits.

HB 556 by Rep. Phillip DeVillier

Every child deserves the opportunity to attend a school that fits, and kids in the foster system are among the most at risk of falling behind. These children deserve the ability to pursue an education that fits their needs through a targeted education savings account.



Recognize healthcare professional's families' right to earn a living.

HB 197 by Rep. Chuck Owen

Louisiana requires a license for the most low-income professions of any state in the country. This has a high impact on a mobile workforce, particularly many of the families of medical professionals and those who have come to our state to respond to COVID-19. We can ease this burden and establish an efficient process to allow spouses and dependents of medical professionals to practice their professions in Louisiana.



Modernize state infrastructure.

HB 40 by Rep. Mark Wright

Louisianans can all agree that the state needs to improve roadway quality and safety, however, our current structure allows our “dedicated” road taxes to be used on salaries and overhead at (DOTD). A better solution is to transition operating expenses and apply the same scrutiny every other government department receives, requiring the entirety of our gas tax dollars to be spent on construction of roads and bridges.



Establish drone highways.

HB 587 by Rep. Bob Owen

Drones have the potential to make our lives better while growing Louisiana’s economy. However, Louisiana laws need to be updated to unleash their potential. Two opportunities for reform in 2021:– pass easement laws to allow drones to fly while respecting private property rights, and allow for “drone highways” on which the state and local government can rent out space above roadways for drones to fly and deliver products like groceries or medication.



Make Louisiana an innovation hub.

HB 482 by Rep. Mark Wright | SB 231 by Sen. Robert Mills

Louisiana should be the most innovation-friendly state in the country. One way to attract new innovation jobs is through regulatory sandboxes, which allow entrepreneurs with innovative business models to meet health and safety requirements while avoiding burdensome red tape not designed for their type of business. Financial technology enterprises and insurance companies are two industries ripe for innovation