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Governmental Ethics Reform Coalition Announces Bill Authors

Baton Rouge, LA (April 27, 2007) – Members of the *LA Ethics 1* coalition announced today the bills and bill authors for the year-one reform package of their multi-year governmental ethics reform initiative. Bills were pre-filed in both the House and Senate last week and co-authors will be added in the coming weeks.

Bill No.	Subject	Author
HB 730	Financial Disclosure	Representative Michael Jackson
HB 442	Freedom of Information	Representative Donald Cazayoux
HB 340	Whistleblower Protection	Representative Bodi White
HB 733	Lobbyist Disclosure & Regulation	Representative Joel Robideaux
HB 532	Administrative Reforms (Administrator)	Representative William Daniel
HB 493	Administrative Reforms (Training)	Representative Regina Ashford Barrow
SB 85	Freedom of Information	Senator Noble Ellington
SB 71	Whistleblower Protection	Senator Sharon Weston Broome
SB 163	Lobbyist Disclosure & Regulation	Senator Jody Amedee
SB 247	Administrative Reforms (Training)	Senator Mike Michot

These bills outline important governmental ethics reforms that will:

- Require financial disclosure by legislators and legislative candidates
- Strengthen access to public records
- Make governmental ethics training mandatory
- Create an independent, full-time ethics administrator
- Enhance citizen access to ethics reports and filings
- Implement targeted technical improvements to state ethics laws

The 39-organization coalition is asking citizens throughout the state to contact their legislators to support the *LA Ethics 1* package. Individuals can quickly send emails, faxes, and letters from the coalition web site: www.LAethics1.com.

According to a recent public opinion survey by Southern Media & Opinion Research, over 87% of likely Louisiana voters believe it is “very important” for Louisiana to improve its governmental ethics laws from the bottom five to the top five states in the country.

About *LA Ethics 1*:

LA Ethics 1 is a coalition of 39 prominent Louisiana business and civic organizations that is pursuing a comprehensive, 2-3 year reform agenda designed to position our state as a national model for

governmental ethics laws and enforcement. For additional information on this effort and the latest listing of organizations comprising **LA Ethics 1**, please visit www.LAethics1.com.