

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT REPORT**

**RE: Office of Agro-Consumer Services, Division of Weights and Measures
Amendments to LAC 7:XXXV.125: Metrology Laboratory Fee Structure**

This report is submitted electronically to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural Development, in accordance with R.S. 49:968 regarding the intent of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, through the Office of Office of Agro-Consumer Services, Division of Weights and Measures, to take the proposed action with regard to the above cited rule.

I. THE PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed rule amends the Metrology Fee Structure to ensure that the department is fully funding expenditures incurred by performing tolerance tests for weights 100 lbs. and under, as well as tolerance adjustments in the metrology laboratory. Currently, the department does not charge any fees for the most labor and time-consuming work of adjusting the weight to meet tolerances. The proposed changes will remedy this by charging \$10 per weight regardless of number of pounds to adjust to within tolerances.

The proposed rule also increases the fees for tolerance testing of weights by \$5 in classes F and P for weights up to 100 pounds. The fees for weights over 100 pounds will not change.

II. THE REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

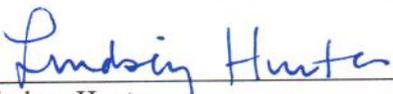
These fee increases will help to make the work that the lab does approach cost neutrality. Metrology fees charged by the department have not been increased in over 20 years but the costs of providing these services have increased.

III. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The proposed action is authorized R.S. 3:430 and 3:4622.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

- A. The proposed action coded with any new rule or language underscored and with language to be deleted from an existing rule in struck-through type.
- B. A copy of the fiscal and economic impact statement approved by the Legislative Fiscal Office.
- C. A copy of the Notice of Intent filed with the State Register.



Lindsey Hunter
General Counsel, LDAF

11/9/15

Date of signature