



## NORTHSHORE SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## What's Happening in HR – Newsletter

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## Louisiana SHRM Day at the Capital

I would like to thank everyone who attended the LASHRM Day at the Capital on April 26th. We began the day by attending committee meetings to see how bills are debated in committees and how they listen to individuals who have a specific view for or against a bill scheduled for hearing.

We then viewed the Senate in session for a short period before the Speaker of the House, Taylor Barras, called us all into his office for a private discussion about the Legislature and pending bills. We have Mike Pelletier, State Council Director, to thank for arranging this meeting. We spent about an hour with the Speaker, who was very entertaining and informative. It was fascinating to hear such an insider's view of the legislature, how it worked and its history. The Speaker also took questions and we discussed HR related bills, as well as any other bill a participant thought interesting. We finished with the opportunity to watch the House as it was in session during the afternoon.

## **Pending Bills of Interest in Louisiana**

Below is a link to pending bills of interest and their current status. Most bills are stuck in committee or are waiting final passage, although they have been waiting for some time, so it appears the bill supporters do not believe they have the votes to pass the bill, although that could change.

Of particular interest to those who have certifications from SHRM or HRCI is House Bill 748, which was amended in the House to currently **prevent** those with certifications from private organizations, such as SHRM or HRCI, from using the term "certified" in their title. The bill passed the house as amended and is currently pending in the Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs committee. If you are currently certified or intend to be certified, you should contact your senator and voice your opposition to this bill, explaining how much you had to go through to get and keep your certifications and how they are recognized in the industry. There is a Senate version of the same bill, SB 494, that would **allow** persons with

certifications from private organizations to use the term "certified" in their title. We suggest you inform you senator that you prefer this version of the bill instead of HB 748.