

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

BY REPRESENTATIVE HENSGENS

DISTRICTS/ECONOMIC DEVEL: Provides with respect to the Vermilion Parish Economic Development District

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:130.561(A), 130.562(A) and (G), and 130.570, relative to the
3 Vermilion Parish Economic Development District; to provide relative to the
4 governing board of the district; to provide with respect to the membership on the
5 board; to provide relative to the dissolution of the district; to provide relative to the
6 name of the district; and to provide for related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
8 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
9 Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 33:130.561(A), 130.562(A) and (G), and 130.570 are hereby
12 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §130.561. Vermilion ~~Parish~~ Economic Development District; creation; territorial
14 jurisdiction

15 A. The Vermilion ~~Parish~~ Economic Development District, hereinafter
16 referred to as the district, is hereby created and is declared to be a body politic and
17 political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, as defined in Article VI, Section 44
18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. Pursuant to Article VI, Sections 19 and 21 of the
19 Constitution of Louisiana, the district, acting through its board of commissioners, the
20 governing authority of said district, is hereby granted all of the rights, powers,

1 privileges, and immunities granted to political subdivisions for industrial,
2 commercial, research, and economic development purposes, including but not
3 limited to the power of taxation, the power to incur debt and issue revenue and
4 general obligation bonds, certificates of indebtedness, bond and certificate
5 anticipation notes, and refunding bonds, subject to the limitations hereinafter
6 provided.

7 * * *

8 §130.562. Board of commissioners; members; officers; agents and employees;
9 quarterly report

10 A.(1) The district shall be governed by a board of commissioners consisting
11 of ~~thirteen~~ fifteen members appointed as follows:

12 (a) ~~Nine~~ Five members appointed by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury. ~~Four~~
13 ~~of the nine members appointed by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury shall be selected~~
14 ~~from a list comprised of names submitted by the governing bodies of Abbeville,~~
15 ~~Delcambre, Erath, Gueydan, Kaplan, and Maurice.~~

16 (b) One member appointed by the Vermilion Parish ~~Farm Bureau~~. Sheriff.

17 (c) One member appointed by the Greater Abbeville-Vermilion Chamber of
18 Commerce.

19 (d) One member appointed by the Vermilion Parish ~~Fourist Commission~~.
20 School Board.

21 (e) One member appointed by the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal District.

22 (f) Six members appointed by the governing authorities of Abbeville,
23 Delcambre, Erath, Gueydan, Kaplan, and Maurice. Each governing authority shall
24 appoint one member, and each such appointment is subject to approval of the
25 district's board of commissioners.

26 (2) Such appointments shall be of individuals with experience in any of the
27 various economic sectors of Vermilion Parish.

28 (3) The term of office for all members shall be four years.

- (2) Present law provides that one member is appointed by the Vermilion Parish Farm Bureau. Proposed law provides instead for appointment of one member by the parish sheriff.
- (3) Present law provides that one member is appointed by the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission. Proposed law provides instead for appointment of one member by the parish school board.

Proposed law retains present law with respect to one appointment each by the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal District and the Greater Abbeville-Vermilion Chamber of Commerce.

Proposed law adds provision requiring the board to be representative of the parish's population by race and ethnicity to ensure diversity.

Present law authorizes the Vermilion Parish Police Jury to adopt a resolution by 2/3 vote calling for the dissolution of the district, effective no earlier than one year from the vote. Proposed law provides instead that the district may dissolve itself by the same vote and subject to the same limitation on effectiveness.

Provides that members of the board in office on the effective date of proposed law serve until the expiration of their terms.

(Amends R.S. 33:130.561(A), 130.562(A) and (G), and 130.570)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Add provision that members of the board in office on the effective date of proposed law shall serve until the expiration of their terms.