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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michael Bell.

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DIGEST

SB 250 Original

2017 Regular Session

Boudreaux

Present law specifies the composition and powers of the board responsible for managing the affairs of the Opelousas Downtown Development District.

Proposed law provides the boundaries of the district shall include the following perimeter: beginning at the intersection of Highway 190 West, Ronald Reagan Highway, Landry Street, and the I-49 exit ramp; then proceeding west to the intersection of East Landry Street, North Union Street; then proceeding north to the intersection of West Church Street; then proceeding north to the intersection of Natchez Boulevard, LA 182; then proceeding west to the intersection with North Main Street, East Landry Street; then proceeding west until the merge of Highway 190, Ronald Reagan Highway, Landry and Vine Streets; then proceeding east to the intersection of West Vine Street, South Main Street; then proceeding south along the west side of South Union to the intersection of Heather Drive; then proceeding north along the east side of South Union to the intersection of East Vine Street; then proceeding east to the intersection of Highway 190 East, Ronald Reagan Highway, Vine Street to the I-49 on ramp.

Present law provides that a seven-member board shall be appointed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the Opelousas Chamber of Commerce.
- (2) One member appointed by the St. Landry Economic Industrial Development District.
- (3) One member appointed from the banking profession within the district.
- (4) One member appointed from the building/development profession within the district.
- (5) One member appointed from the Opelousas Office of Community Development.
- (6) Two members appointed by the mayor of the city of Opelousas.

Proposed law provides that a seven-member board shall be appointed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the mayor of the city of Opelousas from the office of the City of Opelousas Tourism, the Opelousas Historic District, or the Opelousas Mainstreet, Inc.
- (2) One member appointed by the St. Landry Parish Economic and Industrial Development District.
- (3) One member appointed by the member of the Louisiana Senate who represents the area

which comprises the district.

- (4) One member appointed by the member of the Louisiana House of Representatives who represents the area which comprises the district.
- (5) One member appointed by the city council of Opelousas who owns property in the district and has general experience in business management.
- (6) One member appointed from the membership of Vision St. Landry.
- (7) One member appointed by the president for the parish of St. Landry who has experience in the profession of engineering or community planning.

Present law provides that each member appointed to the board shall be a citizen of the United States and a domiciliary and qualified voter in the city of Opelousas for at least one year preceding the date of appointment.

Proposed law provides for each member appointed to the board shall be a citizen of the United States and a domiciliary of and a qualified voter in the parish of St. Landry.

Proposed law provides for the St. Landry Parish Economic and Industrial Development District Director or his designee to serve as interim Downtown Development Director until the district is financially able to permanently hire a director. Further, proposed law provides that eight percent of the district's annual revenue is to be paid to the St. Landry Parish Economic and Industrial Development District.

Present law authorizes the district to levy and collect a sales and use tax, not exceeding one percent, as set out in a proposition submitted to a vote in accordance with the Louisiana Election Code, and approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting in an election held for that purpose.

Proposed law authorizes the levy sales taxes within the district or subdistrict up to one percent, above and in addition to any other sales taxes then in existence or permitted to be in existence within the district or subdistrict.

Proposed law provides for any increase in sales taxes is to be levied only after the governing authority of the district has adopted an appropriate resolution giving notice of its intention to levy such taxes, which resolution shall include a general description of the taxes to be levied, and notice of this intention shall be published once a week for two weeks in the official journal of the district, the first publication to appear at least 14 days before the public meeting of the governing authority of the district at which the governing authority will meet in open and public session to hear any objections to the proposed levy of increased taxes.

Proposed law requires the proceeds of the additional sales tax to be used by the district for paying the costs and expenses of constructing, improving, and maintaining the district's infrastructure or to promote the economic development of the district. Further authorizes the proceeds of the sales tax

to be used to fund bonds.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 33:2740.39(A), (B)(2), (C)(1), (2), (3), (5), and (6), and (E)(15)(a); adds R.S. 33:2740.39(E)(15)(f))