
DIGEST

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HB 164 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Bagley

Abstract: Provides for the abolition of the Stonewall police chief and authorizes the municipality to contract for law enforcement services.

Present law provides that the officers of every municipality shall be a mayor, aldermen, a chief of police, a tax collector, and a clerk.

Present law provides for at-large election of the mayor and police chief in all municipalities. Further provides for exceptions with respect to the chief of police in certain municipalities.

Present law (R.S. 33:362(C)) provides that any department of a municipality, other than the police department in a municipality with an elected chief of police, shall be created, abolished, merged, or consolidated by the board of aldermen, upon the written recommendation of the mayor.

Proposed law provides an exception for the office of the chief of police in the town of Stonewall. Provides that the board of aldermen may, upon the recommendation of the mayor, abolish the office of chief of police. Provides that the office cannot be abolished until the end of the term of the chief of police in office at the time of that action or when a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs first; however, if at the time of that action the office is filled by an officer temporarily appointed, the abolition of the office will become effective as provided by ordinance.

Proposed law provides that, if the office of chief of police and the police department are abolished pursuant to proposed law and present law, the mayor and board of aldermen may contract with any law enforcement entity or officer within DeSoto Parish for police services.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:381(C)(34))