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## DIGEST

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White

HB No. 283

**Abstract:** Creates the Greenwood Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish and provides for the boundaries, governance, powers, duties, and funding thereof.

Proposed law creates the Greenwood Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish with boundaries coterminous with Greenwood Subdivision. The purposes of the district are: providing for an increase in the presence of law enforcement personnel in the district and funding beautification and improvements for the overall betterment of the district.

Proposed law provides that the district shall be governed by a board of seven commissioners, all of whom shall own property in the district. Further provides that the board shall be composed as follows:

- (1) The president of the Greenwood Civic Association, or its successor.
- (2) Two members appointed by the board of directors of the Greenwood Civic Association, or its successor.
- (3) One member appointed by the member(s) of the La. House of Representatives who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (4) One member appointed by the member(s) of the La. Senate who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (5) One member appointed by the member(s) of the East Baton Rouge metro council who represent the area which comprises the district.
- (6) One member appointed by the mayor-president of Baton Rouge.

Proposed law provides for two-year terms for all board members.

Proposed law requires that members serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for approved expenses directly related to the governance of the district.

Proposed law provides that the district, through its board, shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To sue and be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To receive and expend funds collected pursuant to proposed law and in accordance with a budget adopted as provided by proposed law.
- (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public, for the provision of security patrols in the district.
- (5) To perform or have performed any other function or activity necessary for the achievement of the district's purposes.
- (6) To accept private grants and donations.
- (7) To procure and maintain liability insurance for board members acting in their official capacity.

Proposed law authorizes the East Baton Rouge Parish governing authority, subject to approval by the voters of the district, to impose and collect a parcel fee on all lots within the district. Provides that the amount of the fee shall not exceed \$125 per year and that the owner of each parcel shall be responsible for payment of the fee. Provides that the fee shall expire 10 years after its initial levy and authorizes renewal of such fee in the same manner as its initial imposition.

Proposed law requires the parish to remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection. Authorizes the board to enter into an agreement with the parish to retain a collection fee, not to exceed 1% of the total amount collected.

Proposed law provides for dissolution of the district by a vote of the majority of the registered voters of the district. Further provides that if the district ceases to exist, all funds of the district shall be transmitted to the parish and shall be used exclusively to promote, encourage, and enhance the security, beautification, and overall betterment of the area included in the district.

Proposed law provides that it is the purpose and intent of proposed law that the additional law enforcement personnel and services provided by the district shall be supplemental to and not in lieu of personnel and services provided in the district by the city of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish.

(Adds R.S. 33:9097.5)