
DIGEST

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Tim Burns

HB No. 524

Abstract: Relative to the membership of constitutional boards and commissions that have members who are selected from congressional districts, retains the existing number of members and provides for implementation of membership from reapportioned congressional districts by filling vacancies first from under-represented congressional districts and then from the state at large.

Present constitution, relative to the Board of Regents, the LSU board of supervisors, the SU board of supervisors, and the University of La. system board of supervisors, provides that each board shall have two members from each congressional district and one from the state at large appointed by the governor, for a total of 15 members per board. Proposed constitutional amendment retains the total membership at 15 but provides that two members shall be from each congressional district and the remaining member or members shall be from the state at large.

Present constitution, relative to the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, provides that the board has 15 members appointed by the governor of which two members shall be from each congressional district and the remaining member or members shall be from the state at large. Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Proposed constitutional amendment, relative to the Board of Regents, the LSU board of supervisors, the SU board of supervisors, the University of La. system board of supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, provides that to implement the requirement for membership from congressional districts, beginning on Jan. 3, 2013, and beginning every 10 years thereafter on the day the members of congress from newly reapportioned congressional districts take office, any vacancy that occurs on the board from a congressional district from which there are two or more board members shall be filled by appointment from a congressional district from which there are less than two members and after the membership includes two members from each congressional district, the next vacancy shall be filled by an appointment from the state at large.

Present constitution, relative to the State Civil Service Commission and the State Police Commission, provides that each board has seven appointed members with not more than one from each congressional district. Proposed constitutional amendment retains seven appointed members but provides that at least one member shall be appointed from each congressional district. Further provides that every 10 years, beginning on the day the members of congress from newly reapportioned congressional districts take office, any vacancy that occurs on the commission shall be filled from a congressional district from which there is no commission

member. Only when the membership includes a member from each congressional district may a vacancy be filled by an appointment from the state at large.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 6, 2012.

(Amends Art. VIII, §§5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), and 7(B)(1) and Art. X, §§3(A) and 43(A); Adds Art. VIII, §8(D))