
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sharon F. Lyles.

DIGEST

Proposed law creates the Coastal Port Advisory Authority in the office of multimodal planning, Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), to perform its duties, functions, and responsibilities in an advisory capacity in order for the state to determine how it may best position itself to take advantage of pending private sector investments in deepwater oil and gas resources in the Gulf of Mexico.

Proposed law provides for membership as follows:

- (1) One member appointed at large by the governor who shall serve as chairman and have knowledge of the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.
- (2) The governor's executive assistant for coastal activities or his designee.
- (3) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or his designee.
- (4) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development or his designee.
- (5) The secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or his designee.
- (6) A representative of the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association selected by its president.
- (7) A representative of the Ports Association of Louisiana selected by its chairman of the board of directors.
- (8) One member each appointed by the executive director of each of the state coastal ports.
- (9) One member each appointed by the executive director of each of the state's deep draft ports.

Proposed law requires the members to select a vice chairman to serve in the absence of the chairman, and for the marine and rail transportation administrator within the office of multimodal planning DOTD to serve as secretary of the authority who shall not vote.

Proposed law provides that the authority be advisory in nature; requires the authority, relative to the state's coastal and deep draft ports, to research and study economic development opportunities available to the state's maritime industries and the needs of the oil and gas industry, to inventory and evaluate port resources and infrastructure, including existing and future resource and infrastructure needs in order to attract business and increase future market shares, to identify

technical research and previously developed information on available markets, to study port capacities and utilization, to identify potential future deficit areas, and to investigate incentives for port development.

Proposed law requires the authority to periodically report the progress of its activities to the house and senate committees on transportation, highways, and public works.

Proposed law provides a majority of the members constitute a quorum and requires a favorable vote of at least a simple majority of the total membership present to take action on any matter; requires the board to meet at least annually and authorizes more frequent meetings upon the call of the chairman; provides that the members serve without salary or mileage or expense reimbursement from the authority.

Effective August 1, 2013.

(Adds R.S. 34:3551 and 3552 and R.S. 36:509(U))