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## DIGEST

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Wesley Bishop

HB No. 605

**Abstract:** Relative to the Gentilly Development District in Orleans Parish, changes the membership of the district's governing board and removes the district's authority to levy a special ad valorem tax within its boundaries.

Present law creates the Gentilly Development District in Orleans Parish as a political subdivision of the state. Provides for district boundaries. Provides that the governing authority of the city of New Orleans shall have such power and control over and responsibility for the functions, affairs, and administration of the district as provided in present law.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the district is governed by a six-member board of commissioners comprised as follows:

- (1) The state representative who represents House District No. 96, or his designee.
- (2) The state representative who represents House District No. 97, or his designee.
- (3) The state senator who represents Senate District No. 3, or his designee.
- (4) The mayor of the city of New Orleans, or his designee.
- (5) The city council member whose district encompasses all or a greater portion of the area of the district, or his designee.
- (6) The assessor for the area included within the district, or his designee.

Proposed law removes the state representative who represents House District No. 96, or his designee and replaces him with the state representative who represents House District No. 99, or his designee. Prohibits the state representative who represents House District No. 96 and his designee from serving on the board on and after the effective date of proposed law.

Present law authorizes the city council of New Orleans, subject to approval of district voters, to levy and collect, for a term not to exceed 50 years a special ad valorem tax. Requires that the tax be levied and collected in the same manner and at the same time as all other ad valorem taxes on property subject to taxation by the city are levied and collected and requires that the tax proceeds

be used solely and exclusively for the purposes and benefit of the district.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law authorizes the board to enter into contracts with the city of New Orleans in order to provide services and to provide, construct, or acquire capital improvements or facilities and with approval of the mayor and city council to enter into such contracts with other entities when the services are not ordinarily provided by the city. Provides that the cost of any such services, capital improvements, and facilities may be paid from the proceeds of the special ad valorem tax levied within the district, or from the proceeds of bonds, as the case may be.

Proposed law removes the district's authority to pay the costs of services, capital improvements, and facilities from the proceeds of the special tax levied within the district. Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Present law authorizes the city of New Orleans, when requested by resolution adopted by the board, approved by a resolution of the city council, and by resolution adopted by the Board of Liquidation, City Debt, to incur indebtedness for and on behalf and for the sole and exclusive benefit of the district. Additionally authorizes the city, subject to the same procedure, to issue at one time, or from time to time, negotiable bonds, notes, bond anticipation notes, renewal notes, revenue bonds, short-term revenue bonds, refunding bonds, interim certificates, certificates of indebtedness, certificates of participation, debentures, warrants, commercial paper, short-term loans, and other obligations or evidences of indebtedness. Provides that the principal of, premium if any, and interest on such debt shall be payable from the proceeds of the special tax authorized, levied, and collected pursuant to the provisions of present law or from any other sources available to the district. Provides that such bonds shall not constitute general obligations of the state, Orleans Parish, or the city of New Orleans. Provides that no bonds shall be issued unless and until the maximum amount of the bonds has been approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon in the city of New Orleans in an election called for that purpose. Provides further with respect to such bonds.

Proposed law retains present law except removes the city's authority to pay the principal and interest on the district's debt from the proceeds of the special tax authorized to be levied and collected within the district.

(Amends R.S. 33:2740.70(D)(1)(b), (E)(2), and (G)(1) and (3); Repeals R.S. 33:2740.70(F))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

#### House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Removes proposed law provisions that exclude certain property from the boundaries of the district.
2. Adds proposed law provisions that change the membership of the district's governing

board.

3. Adds proposed law provisions that remove the authority granted to the city council of New Orleans to levy a special ad valorem tax within the boundaries of the district and the authority of the city of New Orleans and the district to pay the district's debt with tax proceeds.