
DIGEST

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HB 381 Original

2018 Regular Session

Havard

Abstract: Relative to fire and police employee members of municipal fire and police civil service boards, removes certain residency requirements.

Present constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 constitution made statutory by the 1974 constitution.

Present law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Proposed law retains present constitution and present law.

Present law, relative to both systems, provides that a municipal fire and police civil service board is created in the municipal and parish government as well as certain fire protection districts. Provides that the board shall be composed of five members who are required to serve without compensation. Requires that each member of the board be a citizen of the U.S. and a resident of the area for which fire or police protection is provided for at least five years preceding his appointment. Additionally requires each member to be a qualified voter of the area at the time of his appointment.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires that at least two members of the board be appointed who shall be first nominated and elected by and from the regular employees of the fire and police departments. Provides that these members shall be residents of the parish in which they serve for a period of at least five years preceding their appointment to the board, if so permitted by a resolution of the local governing authority. Proposed law removes the residency requirement.

Present law additionally provides that the two members elected from the regular employees of the fire and police department are not required to be or residents of the municipality or area or of the parish in which the municipality or area is located, if so permitted by a resolution of the local governing authority. Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 33:2476(B)(1) and 2536(B)(1))