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

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DIGEST

SB 167 Original

2020 Regular Session

Fred Mills

Proposed law authorizes the governing authorities of any two or more parishes located wholly or partially within one of the eight watershed regions identified by the Council on Watershed Management created by Executive Order JBE 18-16, upon their own initiative, to form and create a regional drainage and flood mitigation district to increase community and regional resilience relative to drainage and flooding by managing, mitigating and adapting to future flood risk.

Proposed law identifies the eight watershed regions in Louisiana by parish.

Proposed law provides definitions for "council", "district", "governing board", and "watershed region".

Proposed law specifies the purposes of the regional drainage and flood mitigation district and the district's governing board.

Proposed law provides that the governing board shall have the duty and authority to do the following:

- (1) Represent the public interest in supporting drainage, flood reduction, and mitigation in the district.
- (2) Advise on issues concerning drainage, and the reduction and mitigation of flood risk in the district.
- (3) Conduct public hearings and share public input on the community's priorities relative to drainage, flood risk and mitigation in the district.
- (4) Appoint the necessary standing and special committees that may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Chapter.
- (5) Enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political subdivisions and with any public or private person to promote the public purposes of the district.

Proposed law provides that the governing board shall appoint a fiscal agent to collect or cause to be collected all public monies identified by the district as available for the purpose of serving as state match for federal matching funds to ensure the provision of drainage, flood reduction, and mitigation projects in the district.

Proposed law provides that DOA, DOTD, or CPRA shall not displace, replace, or supplant state appropriations from the state general fund or other state funds designated for the district.

Proposed law provides that the governing board shall submit any reports or information related to the district to the chairmen of the Senate and House committees on transportation, highways, and public works upon request of the chairman of either committee.

Proposed law provides for the governing board of the district and additionally provides for the membership, term, and compensation of governing board members.

Proposed law provides that all governing board members of the district shall be subject to the Code of Governmental Ethics. No member of the governing board or his immediate family shall own or have any interest in any public or private organization, business, company, or entity conducting business of any kind with the district.

Effective August 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 38:95-95.5)