
DIGEST

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HB 25 Original

2023 Regular Session

Hollis

Abstract: Grants parish and municipal governing authorities certain powers over local public libraries.

Present law authorizes parish and municipal governing authorities to create, by ordinance, public libraries. Requires parish and municipal governing authorities to create public libraries when petitioned by not less than 25% of the duly qualified property taxpayers of the respective parish or municipality. Further requires parish governing authorities to appoint not less than five nor more than seven citizens of the parish as a board of control and municipal governing authorities to appoint five citizens as a board of control.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires board of control members to serve five-year staggered terms. Proposed law instead provides that members serve at the pleasure of the governing authority.

Present law authorizes the board of control to establish rules and regulations for its own government and that of the library not inconsistent with law.

Proposed law clarifies that the board's rules and regulations cannot be inconsistent with state law and additionally provides that the rules and regulations cannot be inconsistent with ordinances of the parish or municipal governing authority.

Proposed law additionally grants the parish or municipal governing authority the power to regulate and oversee the board of control and its officers, employees, and libraries and to conduct the oversight through separate panels, commissions, or boards, which it may create for that purpose.

(Amends R.S. 25:214(A) and (B) and 215(A))