

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 446 (HB 690)

2024 Regular Session

Marcelle

Existing law creates the Melrose East Crime Prevention District in East Baton Rouge Parish for the purpose of aiding in crime prevention and adding to the security of district residents by providing for an increase in the presence of law enforcement personnel in the district. Provides that the district is governed by a seven-member board of commissioners. Provides for district boundaries.

New law expands the district's boundaries and purposes to include beautification and other improvements, subject to voter approval.

Prior law authorized the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish, subject to voter approval, to impose and collect a parcel fee within the district. New law instead authorizes the district, subject to voter approval, to impose and collect a parcel fee within the district.

Existing law provides that the fee shall be a flat fee per improved parcel not to exceed \$200 per year for lots zoned for residential use and \$2,000 per year for lots zoned for commercial use. Prior law provided that the fee expired 10 years from its initial levy. New law instead provides that the fee expires at the end of the term provided for in the proposition authorizing the fee, not to exceed 10 years.

Prior law required the parish to collect and remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection. Authorized the parish to retain a 1% collection fee. New law instead requires the sheriff of East Baton Rouge Parish to collect and remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection. Authorizes the sheriff to enter into an agreement with the district for the retention of a collection fee, not to exceed 1%.

New law requires the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish to continue to levy the fee until such time as it expires, as provided in the proposition approved at an election held on Dec. 10, 2022. However, new law authorizes the board to submit the question of imposition of the fee as provided in new law to the voters prior to the expiration of the fee. Requires the board to begin to levy a parcel fee as provided in new law if the parcel fee is approved by the voters.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 3, 2024).

(Amends R.S. 33:9097.7(B), (C), and (F))