

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 224

BY SENATOR BARROW

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

PARISHES. Provides for the creation of the Parish Preservation Act. (8/1/25)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Part IX-B of Chapter 6 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be
3 comprised of R.S. 33:3080.1 through 3080.3, relative to the Parish Preservation Act;
4 to provide relative to a municipality's impact on parish government funding and
5 services; to provide relative to consolidated parish government and incorporated
6 municipalities; to provide relative to certain allocation of parish tax revenues; to
7 provide relative to certain public meetings and reporting requirements; to provide
8 relative to parish governmental services; to provide relative to a parish plan of
9 government; to provide relative to certain terms, conditions, and procedures; and to
10 provide for related matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. Part IX-B of Chapter 6 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
13 1950, comprised of R.S. 33:3080.1 through 3080.3, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 **Part IX-B. THE PARISH PRESERVATION ACT**

15 **§3080.1. Creation**

16 **The provisions of this Act shall be known as "The Parish Preservation**
17 **Act".**

1 §3080.2. Legislative findings

2 A. The legislature strives to ensure that Louisiana's government is
3 responsive to the needs of the people of this state and that the government of
4 this state is accountable, efficient, and effective.

5 B. The use by a municipality of tax revenues previously used to provide
6 services to the parish as a whole impacts the parish government and its local
7 residents.

8 C. All citizens, including those who reside in historically underserved
9 areas of the parish, deserve high-quality services.

10 D. Seeking to reduce the benefit to parish government of tax revenues
11 collected from and on behalf of significant public entities such as airports,
12 recreation and park commissions, libraries, transit systems, and concert and
13 sporting venues, as well as from private businesses which have invested long-
14 term in the parish, should cause grave concern as to the impact of taking
15 resources away from neighborhoods and areas which have benefitted from the
16 parish investment.

17 E. Operating efficiently and cost-effectively is best for each municipality,
18 parish government and the state of Louisiana.

19 F. Working cooperatively, involving public input, ensuring high quality
20 services for all parish residents and providing consistent transparency will
21 improve outcomes.

22 §3080.3. Parish government funding; municipalities; services

23 A. Any parish with a population of not less than four hundred forty-five
24 thousand persons and not more than four hundred sixty thousand persons,
25 according to the most recent federal decennial census, prior to final local
26 approval and implementation of a change in the allocation of tax revenue
27 proceeds from the consolidated parish government to an incorporated
28 municipality within that parish when the amount of the revenue loss to the
29 consolidated parish government would represent a greater than five percent

impact on the parish general fund budget, both the municipality and the consolidated parish government shall provide a report at a public meeting held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law and the Louisiana Public Records Act.

B. The report shall include:

(1) Need for the additional revenue and plan for the use of the revenue by the municipality.

(2) Manner in which the municipality would assume, deliver, and fund any particular service currently being provided by the consolidated parish government, and the anticipated impact on residents of the municipality as a result of that change in delivery.

(3) Anticipated impact on the ability of the consolidated parish government to deliver public services after the anticipated loss of parish revenues, any anticipated cessation or reduction in parish government services, and the anticipated impact on residents of the parish who currently receive the services.

(4) Anticipated impact of the loss in parish government revenue on any historically underserved areas of the parish as a result of any projected reduction in services or community investments.

C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to conflict with the plan of government of the parish.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Proposed law creates the Parish Preservation Act.

Proposed law provides for the following legislative findings:

- (1) The legislature strives to ensure that Louisiana's government is responsive to the needs of the people of this state and that the government of this state is accountable, efficient, and effective.

- (2) The use by a municipality of tax revenues previously used to provide services to the parish as a whole impacts the parish government and its local residents.
- (3) All citizens, including those who reside in historically underserved areas of the parish, deserve high-quality services.
- (4) Seeking to reduce the benefit to parish government of tax revenues collected from and on behalf of significant public entities such as airports, recreation and park commissions, libraries, transit systems, and concert and sporting venues, as well as from private businesses who have invested long-term in the parish, should cause grave concern as to the impact of taking resources away from neighborhoods and areas of the parish which have benefitted from the parish investment.
- (5) Operating efficiently and cost-effectively is best for each municipality, parish government and the state of Louisiana.
- (6) Working cooperatively, involving public input, ensuring high quality services for all parish residents and providing consistent transparency will improve outcomes.

Proposed law provides that in a parish with a population of not less than 445,000 persons and not more than 460,000 persons according to the latest federal decennial census, prior to final local approval and implementation of a change in the allocation of tax revenue proceeds from the consolidated parish government to an incorporated municipality within that parish when the amount of the revenue loss to the consolidated parish government would represent a greater than five percent impact on the parish general fund budget, both the municipality and the consolidated parish government shall provide reports at a public meeting held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law and the Louisiana Public Records Act.

Proposed law provides that the report shall include:

- (1) Need for the additional revenue and plan for the use of the revenue by the municipality.
- (2) Manner in which the municipality would assume, deliver and fund any particular service currently being provided by the consolidated parish government, and the anticipated impact on residents of the municipality as a result of that change in delivery.
- (3) Anticipated impact on the ability of the consolidated parish government to deliver public services after the anticipated loss of parish revenues, any anticipated cessation or reduction in parish government services, and the resulting anticipated impact on residents of the parish who currently receive the services.
- (4) Anticipated impact of the loss in parish government revenue on any historically underserved areas of the parish as a result of any projected reduction in services or community investments.

Proposed law provides that nothing in proposed law shall be construed to conflict with the plan of government of the parish.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 33:3080.1-3080.3)