

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 238

BY SENATOR CONNICK

LEVEES. Provides relative to the Lafitte Area Independent Levee District. (8/1/25)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 11:411(11), R.S. 38:291(Y)(2), (4), and (5), and R.S.
3 49:214.6.8(B)(1)(j), relative to the Lafitte Area Independent Levee District; to
4 change the name of the district; to provide for requirements for the board of
5 commissioners; to provide for term limits; to provide for restrictions for board
6 members and employees; to provide for domicile of the board and meeting
7 requirements; and to provide for related matters.

8 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 11:411(11) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §411. Eligibility for membership

12 * * *

13 (11) Employees of the Lafitte Area ~~Independent~~ Levee District.

14 * * *

15 Section 2. R.S. 38:291(Y)(2), (4) and (5) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
16 as follows:

17 §291. Naming; limits of districts; composition of boards

* * *

Y. Lafitte Area Independent Levee District.

* * *

(2)(a) The governor shall appoint, subject to Senate confirmation, a board of commissioners consisting of five persons who reside in that portion of Jefferson Parish located within the levee district and who meet the requirements of R.S. 38:304(A) as follows:

(a)(i) One member shall be appointed from a list containing three nominations from the governing authority of Jean Lafitte.

(b)(ii) Four members shall be appointed at-large from a list of six nominations submitted jointly by the legislative delegation representing that portion of Jefferson Parish located within the levee district.

(c) Members (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Paragraph and R.S. 38:304, the members provided for in Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Paragraph shall be nominated and appointed such that there are always at least ~~two~~ four professionals with at least ten years of experience in their respective professional disciplines on the board, one of whom shall be ~~an~~ a civil engineer **who shall reside on the Westbank of Jefferson Parish.**

* * *

(4)(a) ~~The members of the board initially appointed shall at their first meeting determine by lot their terms of office, which terms shall commence immediately upon their appointment and shall expire, respectively, as follows: one member in two years, two members in three years, and two members in four years, from the first day of July immediately succeeding such appointment. Thereafter all terms shall be four years.~~ Beginning January 1, 2026, all members whose terms have not expired and new appointees shall serve a term of four years, not to exceed three consecutive four-year terms.

(b) No member shall serve more than ~~four~~ three consecutive four-year terms.

However, if a person has been appointed to fill more than one-half of an unexpired

term, such person shall be eligible to serve consecutively no more than three terms in addition to such partial term.

(c) No member of the board, or any of the immediate family of the member, shall own or have any interest or part in any business, company, or entity conducting business of any kind with the authority or levee district within the territorial jurisdiction of the authority or any of the facilities controlled by the authority or any such district. "Immediate family" as used in this Subparagraph means his children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, the parents of his spouse, his spouse's brothers and their spouses, his spouse's sisters and their spouses, and his spouse's children.

(d) No former board member may qualify as a candidate for any elected office within twelve months of the termination of his term on the board.

(e) No elected official or former elected official may serve as a member of the board within twenty-four months of the termination of his term.

(f) No public employee or former public employee shall serve as a member of the board within twelve months of the termination of his employment other than as a member of the board.

(g) No member shall accept or receive political campaign contributions or in-kind political donations from any source.

(5) The official domicile of the board of the district shall be ~~established by the board~~ the parish of Jefferson. The office for the transaction of business including all meetings, shall be housed in the same location as the Southeast Louisiana Flood Authority-West offices.

* * *

Section 3. R.S. 49:214.6.8(B)(1)(j) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§214.6.8. Coastal Louisiana Levee Consortium; establishment; purposes

* * *

B.(1) The members of the consortium shall consist of the director, general manager, or president, or their designee, of each board of commissioners of a coastal levee district or flood protection authority, including the following:

* * *

(j) Lafitte Area ~~Independent~~ Levee District

* * *

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)]

DIGEST

SB 238 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Connick

Present law provides for the name of the levee district as the Lafitte Area Independent Levee District. Proposed law changes the name to the Lafitte Area Levee District.

Present law provides for the number of appointees and requirements for the board of commissioners, including residency requirements. Present law further provides for the nomination of at least two professionals with at least 10 years experience who are from the district, one of whom is an engineer. Proposed law changes requirements for nominees to at least four professionals with at least 10 years experience, one of whom is a civil engineer from the West Bank of Jefferson Parish, to be nominated.

Present law provides for terms in office to be staggered. Proposed law creates new term limits effective January 1, 2026, where all new appointees serve four-year terms, not to exceed three terms. Proposed law further provides for restrictions for members of the board and their immediate family. Proposed law further provides for restrictions on board members relative to political activities.

Present law allows the meeting location of the board of commissioners to be determined by the board. Proposed law changes the official domicile of the Lafitte Area Independent Levee District board and requires all meetings of the board held in the same building as the Southeast Louisiana Flood Authority-West offices.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 11:411(11), R.S. 38:291(Y)(2), (4), and (5), and R.S. 49:214.6.8(B)(1)(j))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works to the original bill

1. Provides for restrictions for board members and employees.