

SENATE BILL NO. 239

BY SENATOR MCMATH

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:130.401(A), 130.402(A)(1) and (2)(a) and (b), (E), (F), (G)
3 and (H), and to repeal R.S. 33:130.402(A)(2)(c) and (d), relative to the St. Tammany
4 Parish Development District; to provide relative to the purposes of the district; to
5 provide relative to the district board of commissioners, members, and officers; and
6 to provide for related matters.

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

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 33:130.401(A), 130.402(A)(1) and (2)(a) and (b), (E), (F), (G) and
10 (H) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §130.401. St. Tammany Parish Development District; creation; territorial
12 jurisdiction

13 A. The St. Tammany Parish Development District, hereinafter referred to as
14 the "district", is hereby constituted and is declared to be a body politic and political
15 subdivision of the state of Louisiana, as defined in Article VI, Section 44 of the
16 Constitution of Louisiana; ~~and~~ a public agency for the purposes of R.S. 12:249 **and,**
17 **solely for purposes of the state's annual appropriations act, a local governing**
18 **authority. The district may use "St. Tammany Economic Development**
19 **Corporation" or a similar trade name.** Pursuant to Article VI, Sections 19 and 21
20 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the district, acting through its board of
21 commissioners, the governing authority of the district, is hereby granted all of the
22 rights, powers, privileges, and immunities granted to political subdivisions for
23 economic and industrial development purposes, including but not limited to the
24 power of taxation, the power to incur debt and issue revenue and general obligation
25 bonds, certificates of indebtedness, bond and certificate anticipation notes, and

refunding bonds, subject to the limitations hereinafter provided.

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§130.402. Board of commissioners; members; officers; employees

A.(1) The district shall be governed by a board of commissioners consisting of eleven members selected as provided for in this Section. All members shall be qualified voters and taxpayers within the limits of the district during their term of office. ~~On and after January 1, 2018, members~~ **Members** of the board of commissioners shall be nominated by the board of commissioners and submitted to the council of St. Tammany Parish for approval. Commissioners shall serve **staggered** three-year terms of office, ~~except in the case of any shorter initial terms.~~ ~~Initial terms shall be staggered for the periods indicated as follows:~~ **with three or four members' term to expire in any year. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Paragraph, a member shall serve until the replacement is approved and sworn.**

~~(a) Four members shall serve three-year initial terms.~~

~~(b) Four members shall serve two-year initial terms.~~

~~(c) Three members shall serve one-year initial terms.~~

(2)(a) The nominating committee of the board of commissioners shall consist of the board ~~president~~ **chair**, and vice ~~president~~ **chair, and treasurer**, the district ~~executive director~~ **president and chief executive officer**, the president of St. Tammany Parish **or his designee**, and a member of a regional board or commission selected by the **parish** president, ~~of the St. Tammany Parish:~~ **Council chairman or his designee, and a member of the St. Tammany Parish Council selected by the council chairman. The regional board or commission member and the selected council member shall not serve on the committee for more than two consecutive years.** The nominating committee shall submit its slate of nominees to the board of commissioners for approval. ~~Once a slate of nominees is approved by the board, it shall be forwarded to the council of St. Tammany Parish.~~

~~(b) The initial slate of nominees shall be nominated by the members of the nominating committee and board of commissioners on or before December 31, 2017.~~

1 For continuity, both the initial nominations and initial approved nominees shall
2 include at least two members of the board of commissioners as of December 31,
3 2017.

4 ~~(c) The council of St. Tammany Parish may approve or disapprove any~~
5 ~~nominee. The board of commissioners shall submit new nominees for any individual~~
6 ~~nominees that are not approved.~~

7 ~~(d) Any vacancy which occurs prior to the expiration of the term for which~~
8 ~~a member of the board of commissioners has been appointed shall be filled pursuant~~
9 ~~to the same nomination and approval process set forth in Paragraph(1) of this~~
10 ~~Subsection.~~

11 * * *

12 E. The board of commissioners shall elect from among its own members a
13 ~~president~~ **chair**, a vice ~~president~~ **chair**, a secretary, and a treasurer, whose duties
14 shall be those usual to such offices. At the option of the board of commissioners, the
15 offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

16 F. The board of commissioners shall **attempt to** meet in regular session every
17 month ~~and shall also meet in~~, **and shall meet not less than nine times per calendar**
18 **year whether in regular or** special session as ~~often as~~ **called by** the ~~president of the~~
19 ~~board convenes them~~ **chair** or on the written request of four members. Six members
20 of the board of commissioners shall constitute a quorum.

21 G. The board of commissioners shall prescribe rules to govern its meetings.
22 The board of commissioners may contract with or employ attorneys, clerks,
23 engineers, deputy commissioners, ~~an executive director~~ **a president and chief**
24 **executive officer**, and other agents and employees and shall fix their compensation
25 and terms of employment.

26 H. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 42:1111, 1112, 1113, and 1120.4,
27 a member of the board of commissioners who is appointed or who serves pursuant
28 to Paragraph (A)(1) of this Section who is an officer, director, trustee, or employee
29 of the ~~St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation~~ **a nonprofit corporation**
30 **focused on parish or regional economic development of which the district may**

1 **be a member or contributor** may serve on the board of commissioners and may
2 participate and vote on matters involving the district and the ~~foundation~~ **nonprofit**
3 **corporation** as authorized by R.S. 33:130.403(22).
4 Section 2. R.S. 33:130.402(A)(2)(c) and (d) are hereby repealed.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____