

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 391 (HB 649)

2025 Regular Session

Ventrella

Existing law creates the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge as a subdivision of the state to plan, own, and operate public recreational and park facilities in the parish.

Prior law provided that the commission was comprised of nine members, six of whom were appointed by the governing authority of the city of Baton Rouge, parish of East Baton Rouge and three of whom were ex officio members. The three ex officio members were the mayor-president or his designee, a member of the East Baton Rouge Parish school board designated by the school board, and a member of the planning commission designated by the planning commission. Provided that four members constituted a quorum.

New law changes the membership of the commission to provide for five ex officio members and four members appointed by the governing authority of city of Baton Rouge, parish of East Baton Rouge for three-year terms. Provides that the five ex officio members are the mayors of the following municipalities: Baker, Baton Rouge, Central, St. George, and Zachary. Requires that at least two of the appointed members be residents of the city of Baton Rouge and at least one be a resident of an unincorporated area of East Baton Rouge Parish. Authorizes the commission, following the release of each federal decennial census, by majority vote, to reallocate these designated residency requirements to reflect changes in population distribution across the parish. Provides that the reallocation shall apply prospectively and shall not alter the term of any sitting member. Provides that five members constitute a quorum.

New law provides that the terms of the members of the commission in office on the effective date of new law terminate on that date; however, those members remain in office until the members take office pursuant to new law.

New law requires the commission to submit a written report annually to each municipality located within the jurisdiction of the commission and to the members of the La. Senate and House of Representative who represent each municipality located within the jurisdiction of the commission. Requires that the report provide the amount of funds received from taxpayers in each municipality, the amount of funds spent by the commission on facilities in each municipality, and the amount of money generated at commission facilities in each municipality. Requires that the report be submitted annually within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year. Further requires the commission to timely submit all reports required by the legislative auditor.

Prior law provided for the composition of the board of commissioners of the Capital Area Transit System to be comprised of nine members if there were no participating parishes other than East Baton Rouge Parish.

New law increases the membership from nine to 10. Provides that one member shall be the president of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1546 in Baton Rouge, La., or his designee. Further provides that the union representative shall be a retired union member and shall serve as a board member without voting privileges. Prohibits the union representative from participating in any executive sessions involving personnel issues or collective bargaining agreements.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 20, 2025).

(Amends R.S. 33:4570.1 and R.S. 48:1456(A); Adds R.S. 33:4570.3(D))