
DIGEST

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HB 212 Original

2026 Regular Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Creates the Delmont Economic Development District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Proposed law creates the Delmont Economic Development District as a political subdivision in East Baton Rouge Parish to provide funding for the acquisition of land, design, development, improvement, renovation, restoration, revitalization, enhancement, expansion, reconstruction, and construction of various multi-phased projects related to the economic improvement of the district and for the development and implementation of public-private partnerships and other initiatives.

Proposed law provides that the district shall be governed by a seven-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) Two members appointed by the member of the governing authority of the city of Baton Rouge/parish of East Baton Rouge who represents District No. 5.
- (2) One member appointed by the member of the governing authority of the city of Baton Rouge/parish of East Baton Rouge who represents District No. 10.
- (3) One member appointed by the mayor-president of the city of Baton Rouge/parish of East Baton Rouge.
- (4) One member appointed by the member of the La. House of Representatives whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district.
- (5) One member appointed by the member of the La. Senate whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district.
- (6) One member appointed by the governing board of the Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

Proposed law provides that members serve four-year staggered terms.

Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the district, including but not limited to the follows:

- (1) To sue and to be sued.

- (2) To adopt bylaws and rules and regulations.
- (3) To receive by gift, grant, donation, or otherwise any sum of money, property, or aid or assistance from the U.S., the state, or any political subdivision thereof, or any person, firm, or corporation.
- (4) To enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or private association, corporation, business entity, or individual for public purposes of the district.
- (5) To appoint officers, agents, and employees, prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation.
- (6) To acquire by gift, grant, purchase, or lease such property as may be necessary or desirable for carrying out the objectives and purposes of the district and to mortgage and sell such property.

Proposed law authorizes the district to levy a sales tax not to exceed 1% and a hotel occupancy tax not to exceed 1%. Provides that the sales tax and the hotel occupancy tax expire 20 years after their initial levy; however, the taxes shall continue to be levied until the bonds, notes, and other evidences of indebtedness are paid in full as to both principal and interest.

Proposed law authorizes the district to enter into a contract with any public entity authorized to collect sales or use taxes, under terms and conditions it considers appropriate, including payment of a reasonable collection fee for the collection of the sales tax and hotel occupancy tax.

Proposed law provides that in order to fund development, the district shall have tax increment finance authority and other authority that is provided to local governmental subdivisions in present law (Part II of Title 33), including but not limited to the following: ad valorem tax increment financing and bonding (R.S. 33:9038.33); sales tax increment financing and bonding (R.S. 33:9038.34); and cooperative endeavor authority (R.S. 33:9038.35). Provides that the district's authority to levy a sales tax and hotel occupancy tax is subject to the rate limitations provided in proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 33:9038.82)