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## DIGEST

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HB 257 Original

2026 Regular Session

Ventrella

**Abstract:** Authorizes the police chief of the city of Central to take certain actions with respect to police personnel without the approval of the mayor or the city's governing authority.

Present law, relative to Lawrason Act municipalities, generally provides that the elected police chief makes recommendations to the mayor and board of alderman regarding the appointment, promotion, discipline, and dismissal of police personnel. Provides that the elected chief may immediately effect disciplinary action and dismiss police personnel subject to the approval of the governing authority of the municipality. Additionally authorizes the elected police chief to make a provisional appointment to immediately fill any vacancy in the police department subject to the approval of the mayor. Provides that the provisional appointment remains in effect unless rejected by the governing authority of the municipality. Provides exceptions for certain municipalities.

Proposed law retains present law and provides an additional exception for the city of Central. Authorizes the police chief to appoint, promote, discipline, and dismiss police personnel without the approval of the mayor or the governing authority of the city.

(Adds R.S. 33:423.31)