
DIGEST

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HB 836 Original

2026 Regular Session

Hilferty

Abstract: Requires the West Bank levee districts to safeguard public flood-related risks and prohibits the impairment of existing rights or obligations of such districts. Requires at least four board members of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East to be engineers or professionals in hydraulic sciences, in addition to geotechnical, hydrological, and environmental science.

Present law requires each flood protection authority, through its board of commissioners, to exercise all authority and have management, oversight, and control over the territories of the levee districts to which it is a successor, to the extent provided by law. Provides for the levee districts and parts of levee districts and parishes within the Southeast La. Flood Protection Authority–West Bank (SLFPA-W).

Proposed law retains present law and requires that each authority work together to safeguard the public from flooding, storm surge, and other flood-related issues.

Present law includes the West Jefferson and Algiers Levee Districts, along with parts of their parishes, within the SLFPA-W, and subjects all lands and property thereon, not exempt from taxation, to the provisions of present law.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits anything in present law from being construed to impair any existing rights, contracts, or obligations of these districts or parishes.

Present law requires that the board of commissioners of the Southeast La. Flood Protection Authority–East be composed of nine members—one from St. Bernard Parish, two from Jefferson Parish, three from Orleans Parish residing within the authority’s jurisdiction, and three from outside the jurisdiction—appointed by the governor from nominations submitted by the nominating committee. Further requires that four members either be an engineer or a professional in a related field such as geotechnical, hydrological, or environmental science. Additionally, requires that one of the four members be a civil engineer.

Proposed law retains present law and adds hydraulic science as another professional field for member related experience.

(Amends R.S. 38:330.1(B)(2)(a)(intro. para.) and (b) and (C)(1)(a)(i))