

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1081

BY REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT

PORTS/HARBORS/TERMINALS: Provides for the Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment Commission

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 34:5221(A), 5223(A)(1), (4), and (5), and 5224(D) and to enact
3 R.S. 36:509(A)(4), relative to the Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment
4 Commission; to provide for the transfer of the Louisiana Ports and Waterways
5 Investment Commission to the office of multimodal commerce within the
6 Department of Transportation and Development; to provide for the powers and
7 duties of the office of multimodal commerce; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 34:5221(A), 5223(A)(1), (4), and (5), and 5224(D) are hereby
10 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §5221. Creation; purpose

12 A. The Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment Commission, referred to
13 as the "commission" in this Chapter, is hereby created within the ~~governor's~~ office
14 of multimodal commerce, Department of Transportation and Development. The
15 domicile of the council shall be East Baton Rouge Parish.

16 * * *

17 §5223. Powers and duties of the commission

18 A. The commission shall:

DIGEST

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HB 1081 Engrossed

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Abstract: Transfers the Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment Commission to the office of multimodal commerce, Department of Transportation and Development.

Present law (R.S. 34:5221(A)) creates the La. Ports and Waterways Investment Commission (commission) within the governor's office.

Proposed law removes the governor's office and transfers the commission within the office of multimodal commerce (OMC), Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD).

Present law (R.S. 34:5223(A)) provides for certain powers and duties of the commission. Specifically requires that the commission represent the public interest in the administration of present law and be responsible to the governor, the legislature, and the public. Further requires the commission advise the governor on problems concerning the administration of the commission and the functions and operations of La. ports. Additionally requires the commission make reports and recommendations on its own initiative or upon the request of the governor, the legislature, or any committee or member.

Proposed law replaces the governor with the commissioner of multimodal commerce.

Present law (R.S. 34:5224(D)) requires that the commission receive an appropriation for the strategic plan and investment program upon the agreement of the governor and the legislature.

Proposed law changes the agreement to receive an appropriation for the strategic plan and investment program from the governor to the commissioner of multimodal commerce.

Present law (R.S. 36:509(A)) provides for certain agencies transferred to the DOTD.

Proposed law requires the commission be placed within the OMC, DOTD.

(Amends R.S. 34:5221(A), 5223(A)(1), (4), and (5), and 5224(D); Adds R.S. 36:509(A)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Add a reference to the Department of Transportation and Development after office of multimodal commerce.
2. Change from office of multimodal commerce to the commissioner of multimodal commerce with respect to certain responsibilities, advise, and reporting obligations of the Louisiana Ports and Waterways Investment Commission.