

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 433

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREIBERG

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Provides relative to the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2740.8(D)(1)(b), 2740.19(D)(1)(e), 2740.53(B)(1)(b),

3 2740.67.1(C)(1)(f), and 4720.151(G)(1)(b) and R.S. 39:1482(4), relative to East

4 Baton Rouge Parish; to provide relative to the Downtown Development District of

5 the city of Baton Rouge, the Baton Rouge Inner City Economic Development

6 District, the Florida Boulevard Economic Development District, and the Plank Road

7 Business Economic Development District, and the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment

8 Authority; to provide relative to nominations or appointments made to such entities

9 by the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce; to provide relative to the

10 Louisiana Competes Regional Economic Development Program; to provide relative

11 to definitions for the program; to change the name of the Baton Rouge Area

12 Chamber of Commerce; and to provide for related matters.

13 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published

14 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of

15 Louisiana.

16 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

17 Section 1. R.S. 33:2740.8(D)(1)(b), 2740.19(D)(1)(e), 2740.53(B)(1)(b),

18 2740.67.1(C)(1)(f), and 4720.151(G)(1)(b) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as

19 follows:

1           §2740.8. The downtown development district of the city of Baton Rouge; creation,  
2                           composition and powers; preparation of plans, levy of special ad valorem  
3                           taxes, and issuance of bonds and other instruments of indebtedness

4                                           \*       \*       \*

5           D.(1) The board shall be composed of seven members, all of whom shall be  
6           qualified voters of the parish of East Baton Rouge, and shall have their principal  
7           place of business or profession in, or own property in, the Downtown Development  
8           District. The seven members shall be appointed as follows:

9                                           \*       \*       \*

10           (b) One member of the board shall be appointed by the mayor-president,  
11           with the approval of the metro council, from a list of four nominees submitted by the  
12           ~~Greater Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce~~ Greater Baton Rouge Economic  
13           Partnership.

14                                           \*       \*       \*

15           §2740.19. Baton Rouge Inner City Economic Development District; creation,  
16                           composition and powers

17                                           \*       \*       \*

18           D.(1) The board shall be composed of fifteen members, all of whom shall be  
19           qualified voters of the parish of East Baton Rouge. The members shall be appointed  
20           as follows:

21                                           \*       \*       \*

22           (e) One member shall be appointed by the president of the ~~Baton Rouge~~  
23           ~~Chamber of Commerce~~ Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

24                                           \*       \*       \*

25           §2740.53. Florida Boulevard Economic Development District

26                                           \*       \*       \*

27           B. Governance. (1) The district shall be governed by an eleven-member  
28           board of commissioners. The members shall be appointed as follows:

29                                           \*       \*       \*

1 (b) One member of the board shall be appointed by the mayor-president,  
 2 with the approval of the metropolitan council, from a list of four nominees submitted  
 3 by the ~~Greater Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce~~ Greater Baton Rouge  
 4 Economic Partnership.

5 \* \* \*

6 §2740.67.1. Plank Road Business Economic Development District

7 \* \* \*

8 C. Governance. (1) In order to provide for the orderly planning,  
 9 development, acquisition, construction, and effectuation of the services,  
 10 improvements, and facilities to be furnished by the district and to provide for the  
 11 representation in the affairs of the district of those persons and interests immediately  
 12 concerned with and affected by the purposes and development of the district, the  
 13 district shall be managed by a seven-member board of commissioners, referred to in  
 14 this Section as the "board". The board shall be comprised of members as follows:

15 \* \* \*

16 (f) One member shall be appointed by the governing board of the ~~Baton~~  
 17 ~~Rouge Area Chamber~~ Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

18 \* \* \*

19 §4720.151. East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority

20 \* \* \*

21 G.(1) The authority shall be governed by a board of commissioners, referred  
 22 to in this Chapter as the "board", consisting of five members appointed as follows:

23 \* \* \*

24 (b) One member shall be appointed by the governing authority of the ~~Baton~~  
 25 ~~Rouge Area Chamber~~ Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

26 \* \* \*

27 Section 2. R.S. 39:1482(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

28

1 §1482. Definitions

2 For purposes of this Chapter, the following words have the following  
3 meanings:

4 \* \* \*

5 (4) "Regional economic development organization" means any of the  
6 following: the ~~Baton Rouge Area Chamber~~ Greater Baton Rouge Economic  
7 Partnership, or its successor; the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance,  
8 or its successor; Greater New Orleans, Inc., or its successor; the Northeast Louisiana  
9 Economic Alliance, or its successor; the North Louisiana Economic Partnership, or  
10 its successor; One Acadiana, or its successor; the South Louisiana Economic  
11 Council, or its successor; or the Southwest Louisiana Economic Development  
12 Alliance, or its successor.

13 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 433 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

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**Abstract:** Changes the name of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber to the Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership in certain provisions.

Present law creates the following entities as political subdivisions in East Baton Rouge Parish: the Downtown Development District of the city of Baton Rouge, the Baton Rouge Inner City Economic Development District, the Florida Boulevard Economic Development District, the Plank Road Business Economic Development District, and the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority. Provides that the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce makes nominations or appointments to the governing boards of the districts.

Proposed law changes the name of the chamber to the Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

Present law creates the Louisiana Competes Regional Economic Development Program to be administered by Louisiana Economic Development, to provide grants to regional economic development organizations. Provides that the definition of "regional economic development organization" includes the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, or its successor.

Proposed law changes the name of the chamber to the Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership.

(Amends 33:2740.8(D)(1)(b), 2740.19(D)(1)(e), 2740.53(B)(1)(b), 2740.67.1(C)(1)(f), and 4720.151(G)(1)(b) and R.S. 39:1482(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove provisions relative to the Greater Baton Rouge Water Conservation District.