
DIGEST

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HB 1254 Original

2026 Regular Session

Newell

Abstract: Changes the composition of the board of commissioners of the New Orleans Regional Business Park.

Present law creates the New Orleans Regional Business Park as a political subdivision in Orleans parish for the purpose of stimulating industrial and commercial development in Orleans Parish and the parishes adjacent to Orleans Parish. Provides for district boundaries and powers and duties.

Present law provides that the district is governed by a 12-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the U.S. representative who represents La.'s 2nd congressional district.
- (2) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 4.
- (3) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 3.
- (4) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 1.
- (5) One member appointed by the councilperson representing council district E, in which the New Orleans Regional Business Park is located.
- (6) Five members appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans from a list of three names submitted by each of the following entities:
 - (a) The Vietnamese Initiatives in Economic Training.
 - (b) The East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission.
 - (c) The New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce.
 - (d) The board of commissioners for the Port of New Orleans.
 - (e) The Greater New Orleans American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

- (7) One member appointed by the state representative from House District 99.
- (8) One member appointed by the state representative from House District 100.

Proposed law reduces the membership of the board from 12 to 11 by reducing the number of appointments granted to the mayor from five to four. Removes the requirement that the mayor make appointments from a list of three names submitted by the specified entities. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that members serve two-year terms. Proposed law provides that each member serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Present law requires that any vacancy be filled by the respective nominating entity within 60 days after receipt by such nominating entity of written notification of the vacancy. Provides that if the respective nominating entity fails to fill the vacancy within 60 days after receipt of written notification of the vacancy, the board shall appoint an interim successor to serve on the board until the position is filled by the respective nominating entity. Provides that if the board fails to fill a vacancy in its membership within the next 60 day period, the mayor shall appoint such member. Provides that any board member appointed by the board or mayor may be replaced at any time by the nominee of the appointing authority.

Proposed law replaces the reference to nominating entity with appointing authority. Specifies that the remaining members of the board shall appoint an interim successor when a vacancy is not filled within 60 days. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that any member who has unexcused absences of four consecutive meetings, regular and special, of the board in any calendar year shall be disqualified and removed automatically from office. Provides that the position shall be vacant as of the first day of the succeeding calendar year. Provides that the vacated position shall be filled by the respective nominating entity for the balance of the vacated term within 15 days. Provides that the former member shall not be eligible to be nominated to the board or to serve on the board again.

Proposed law replaces the reference to nominating entity with appointing authority. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that any member of the board may be removed by his respective appointing authority at any time with cause. Proposed law removes the cause requirement.

Present law provides that no board member appointed by certain ex officio appointing authorities shall sit on the board beyond the end of the term of office of the appointing authority that appointed the board member without being reappointed pursuant to present law.

Proposed law prohibits board members appointed by all appointing authorities from serving beyond the end of the term of the respective appointing authority; provides however, that the board members are eligible for reappointment.

Present law provides that five members constitute a quorum. Proposed law provides that six members constitute a quorum.

(Amends R.S. 33:4702(B)(2)(intro para.) and (f), (3), (4)(a), and (6)(b) and (c))