HLS 13RS-264 REENGROSSED

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARMES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES CMN: Adds new members to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

1 AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 36:601(A) and R.S. 56:1(C) and (D), relative to the Wildlife and

Fisheries Commission; to provide relative to the membership of the commission; to

provide for appointment and terms of office; to provide an effective date; and to

provide for related matters.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:601(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§601. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

A. The control and supervision of the wildlife of the state, including all aquatic life, is vested in the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The commission shall be in the executive branch and shall consist of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Six of the members shall serve for overlapping terms of six years, and one shall serve for a term concurrent with that of the governor. Three members shall be electors of the coastal parishes and representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries, two members shall be electors appointed at large from the parishes located north of a line created by the northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee, and four two shall be electors from the state at large other than representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries, as provided

Page 1 of 3

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1	by law. No member who has served six years or more shall be eligible for
2	reappointment.
3	* * *
4	Section 2. R.S. 56:1(C) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
5	follows:
6	§1. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission established; membership; qualifications;
7	definitions
8	* * *
9	C. Three members of the commission shall be electors of the coastal parishes
10	and representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries. Two members shall
11	be electors appointed at large from the parishes located north of a line created by the
12	northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and
13	<u>Pointe Coupee.</u> The other <u>four two members</u> shall be electors from the state at large,
14	other than representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries.
15	D. The members of the commission commissioners heretofore appointed
16	under the provisions of Article VI, Section 1 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1921
17	and presently serving as commissioners on January 1, 2015, shall continue to serve
18	for the terms for which appointed. Thereafter, any vacancy occurring in the
19	commission by reason of the expiration of the term for which appointed or by reason
20	of death, resignation, or otherwise shall be filled by appointment by the governor;
21	however, persons appointed to fill the vacancy created by a retiring or deceased
22	commissioner shall be appointed for the unexpired term of such commissioner only.
23	* * *
24	Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall become effective if, as, and when the
25	proposed amendment to the Louisiana Constitution proposed by the Act which originated
26	as House Bill No. 426 of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a
27	statewide election and becomes effective.

REENGROSSED HB NO. 503

## **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)]

Armes HB No. 503

**Abstract:** Requires two of the at-large members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission be appointed from the northern parishes of the state.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission consist of seven members to be appointed by the governor to represent certain industries and at large from the state.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and specifies that two of the at-large members must each be electors from north of a line created by the northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee.

<u>Proposed law</u> becomes effective if, as, and when the amendment to the constitution proposed by HB No. 426 of the 2013 R.S. is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 36:601(A) and R.S. 56:1(C) and (D))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment</u> to the <u>original</u> bill.

- 1. Remove the additional commission members.
- 2. Provide that the terms of office remain the same as <u>present law.</u>
- 3. Require that two of the commissioners appointed at-large from the state be electors of parishes located north of a line created by the northern boundaries of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee.
- 4. Remove the transition provisions for the additional members.