## **2017 Regular Session**

**DeVillier** 

Existing constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 constitution made statutory by the 1974 constitution. Existing law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Existing law, relative to the system applicable to municipalities with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 defines the term "seniority" to mean *departmental* seniority and promotional seniority. Defines departmental seniority to mean the period of continuous employment in the department. Defines promotional seniority to mean the total cumulative employment in a class of positions of the next lower class from which a promotion is to be made. Specifies further relative to employment counted toward seniority in the next lower class.

Existing law provides that a municipal fire and police civil service board is created in the municipal government. Requires the board to establish and maintain employment lists containing the names of persons eligible for appointment to various classes of positions in the classified service. Requires that names of persons attaining a passing score on a promotion test be placed on the promotion employment list for the tested class, from highest to lowest, according to *departmental seniority*. When new names are to be placed on a promotion list for a given class, the remaining names must be arranged according to *departmental seniority*.

Existing law provides an exception for the DeRidder Police Dept. by requiring that names be placed on the promotion employment list for the tested class, from highest to lowest, according to *promotional seniority*. If two or more persons possess an equal amount of *promotional seniority*, then their names must be placed on the promotion employment list, from highest to lowest, according to *departmental seniority*. When new names are to be placed on a promotion employment list for a given class, the remaining names must be arranged in the same manner.

<u>New law</u> provides an additional exception for the Eunice Police Dept. by making <u>existing</u> <u>law</u> provisions for the DeRidder Police Dept. also applicable to the Eunice Police Dept.

<u>Existing law</u> requires that promotions to vacant positions be filled by reinstatement or reemployment. If the position cannot be filled in this manner, then the position must be filled by the person with the greatest seniority in departmental service.

<u>Existing law</u> provides an exception for the DeRidder Police Dept. by providing that a vacant position must be filled by the person having the greatest promotional seniority if the position cannot be filled by reinstatement or reemployment.

<u>New law</u> provides an additional exception for the Eunice Police Dept. by making <u>existing</u> law provisions for the DeRidder Police Dept. also applicable to the Eunice Police Dept.

<u>Existing law</u>, relative to the abolition of an entire class in the classified police service of the city of DeRidder, requires that employees be demoted to lower classes and priority to positions be governed by *promotional seniority* earned in the class.

New law makes existing law provisions for the DeRidder Police Dept. also applicable to the Eunice Police Dept.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 33:2551(4)(b) and (8)(b), 2554(C)(2)(intro. para.), and 2558(B))