DIGEST

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HB 392 Original

2022 Regular Session

Hughes

Abstract: Provides that certain employees of communications districts are first responders.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the governing authority of any parish to create communications districts composed of territory lying within the parish. Provides for the establishment of the number 911 as the primary emergency telephone number for use in communications districts and for the identification of all streets, roads, highways, and dwelling places in the districts. Provides that the districts are political subdivisions of the state and are generally governed by a seven-member board of commissioners. Provides that the Jefferson Parish communications district is governed by the parish governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the governing board to employ employees, experts, and consultants as it may deem necessary to assist the commission in the discharge of its responsibilities to the extent that funds are made available.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and additionally provides that district employees who are emergency response operators or emergency services dispatchers who provide communications support services for an agency by responding to requests for assistance in emergencies are considered first responders. Defines "first responder" as a public employee or volunteer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency.

(Amends R.S. 33:9103(D) and 9124(B))