
DIGEST

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HB 184 Original

2024 Regular Session

McFarland

Abstract: Provides for the abolition of the office of police chief or the appointment of the police chief in the village of Calvin and authorizes the municipality to contract for law enforcement services.

Present law provides that the officers of every municipality governed by the provisions of the Lawrason Act (mayor-board of alderman form of government) shall be a mayor, aldermen, a chief of police, a tax collector, and a clerk.

Present law provides for at-large election of the mayor and police chief in all municipalities. Further provides for exceptions with respect to the chief of police in certain municipalities.

Proposed law provides an exception for the office of police chief in the village of Calvin. Provides that the board of aldermen may, upon recommendation of the mayor, abolish the office of police chief or determine that the chief shall be appointed rather than elected. Provides that such an action is not effective until the end of the term of the police chief in office at the time of that action or when a vacancy occurs in the office.

Present law (R.S. 33:362(C)) provides that any department of such a municipality, other than the police department in a municipality with an elected chief of police, shall be created, abolished, merged, or consolidated by the board of aldermen, upon the written recommendation of the mayor.

Proposed law provides that, if the office of police chief and the police department are abolished pursuant to proposed law and present law, the mayor and board of aldermen may contract with any law enforcement entity or officer within Winn Parish for police services.

(Adds R.S. 33:381(C)(36))