
DIGEST

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HB 643 Original

2024 Regular Session

Hughes

Abstract: Provides for changes to the appointment of commissioners to the Housing Authority of New Orleans.

Present law (R.S. 40:531) authorizes the governing body of any municipality or parish to determine by resolution that it is expedient to establish a local housing authority when there exists a shortage of decent, safe, and sanitary dwelling accommodations in such parish or municipality. Provides that when such determination is made, the chief elected official of the municipality or parish, or if no such official exists then the governing body itself shall appoint five persons to constitute the housing authority's governing body. Provides that the members of the governing body are called commissioners.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:531) provides for exceptions relative to the number of commissioners for certain housing authorities. Provides that the Housing Authority of New Orleans shall consist of nine commissioners appointed by the mayor. Requires that at least two commissioners be tenants of the housing authority who are chosen from a list of three names submitted by the Citywide Tenants Council, Inc., and who are referred to as "tenant commissioners". Provides for the appointment of one commissioner as a "landlord commissioner" from a list of three nominees submitted by the Landlords Advisory Committee. Requires that at least one of the tenant commissioners be a participant in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Proposed law decreases the number of commissioners from nine to seven. Requires that five commissioners are appointed by the mayor of New Orleans, two of whom must be tenants, and one of whom is a landlord, and that two commissioners are appointed by the at-large members of the New Orleans City Council. Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law requires each appointment to the Housing Authority of New Orleans to be confirmed by the city council. Requires the council to approve the hiring of the executive director of the authority.

(Amends R.S. 40:531(B))