

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 643

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

HOUSING/AUTHORITIES: Provides relative to the membership of the Housing Authority of New Orleans

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:531(B)(2)(a), relative to the Housing Authority of New
3 Orleans; to provide relative to the appointment of commissioners to the authority;
4 and to provide for related matters.

5 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
6 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
7 Louisiana.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 40:531(B)(2)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §531. Appointment of commissioners to local housing authority

11 * * *

12 B.

13 * * *

14 (2)(a) ~~Eight~~ Six commissioners, excluding the landlord commissioner, shall
15 be appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans. The two tenant
16 commissioners shall be ~~chosen~~ appointed by the president of the New Orleans city
17 council from a list of names submitted ~~to the mayor~~ by the Citywide Tenants

1 Council, Inc., of the housing authority. The number of names submitted shall be
 2 three for each vacancy to be filled by a tenant commissioner.

3 * * *

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)]

HB 643 Reengrossed

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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. Provides for the appointment of two tenant commissioners and one landlord commissioner.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires that eight commissioners, excluding the landlord commissioner, be appointed by the mayor without the need to select from a list of nominations. Proposed law reduces the number from eight to six.

Present law requires that the two tenant commissioners be chosen from a list of three names submitted to the mayor by the Citywide Tenants Council, Inc. Provides for the appointment of the landlord commissioner from a list of three nominees submitted by the Landlords Advisory Committee.

Proposed law instead requires that the two tenant commissioners be appointed by the president of the New Orleans city council from a list of names submitted by the tenants council. Proposed law otherwise retains present law relative to the appointment of the landlord commissioner.

(Amends R.S. 40:531(B)(2)(a))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law provisions that reduce the membership from nine to seven.

2. Add provisions to increase the number of commissioners appointed by the mayor without the need to select from a list of nominations from four to six.
3. Remove proposed law provisions that provide for the appointment of two commissioners by the at-large members of the city council.
4. Remove requirement that appointments be subject to confirmation by the city council.
5. Remove requirement that the executive director be hired upon the approval of the city council.
6. Add provision for the appointment of the two tenant members by the president of the city council.