HLS 25RS-819 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 278

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BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CIVIL SERVICE/FIRE & POL: Provides relative to the qualifications of certain members of the fire and police civil service board

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(c) and 2536(B)(1)(c), relative to the fire and
3	police civil service board; to provide relative to the members of the board; to provide
4	relative to the qualifications of certain members; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(c) and 2536(B)(1)(c) are hereby amended and
7	reenacted to read as follows:
8	§2476. Municipal fire and police civil service boards
9	* * *
10	B.(1)
11	* * *
12	(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this
13	Paragraph, the two members elected from the municipal fire and the municipal police
14	departments shall not be required to be residents or qualified voters of the
15	municipality in which they are appointed to serve or residents of the parish in which
16	the municipality is located provided that such exceptions are approved by resolution
17	of the local governing authority.
18	* * *
19	§2536. Fire and police civil service boards
20	* * *

Page 1 of 3

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

HLS 25RS-819
ORIGINAL
HB NO. 278

B.(1)

2 * * *

3 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of S

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph, the two members elected by and from the fire and the police departments as provided in Paragraph (C)(3) of this Section shall not be required to be residents or qualified voters of the area in which they are appointed to serve or residents of the parish in which the area is located provided that such exceptions are approved by resolution of the local governing authority.

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 278 Original

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2025 Regular Session

Adams

Abstract: Provides relative to the qualifications of the employee members of the fire and police civil service board.

<u>Present constitution</u> 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. <u>Present law</u> 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.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present constitution</u> and <u>present law</u>.

<u>Present law</u>, creates a municipal fire and police civil service board in each parish, municipality, and fire protection district composed of five members appointed by the respective governing body. <u>Present law</u> generally requires that each member of the board be a citizen of the U.S. and a resident of the area for which fire or police protection is provided for at least five years preceding his appointment. Additionally requires each member to be a qualified voter of the area at the time of his appointment and to serve without compensation.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> requires that at least two members of the board be appointed who shall be first nominated and elected by and from the regular employees of the fire and police departments. Requires the members to be residents of the parish in which the area they are to serve is located for a period of at least five years preceding their appointment provided that such residency exception is approved by the local governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law.

Page 2 of 3

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<u>Present law</u> provides that, notwithstanding <u>present law</u>, the two members elected by and from the fire and the police departments are not required to be residents or qualified voters of the area in which they are appointed to serve or residents of the parish in which the area is located provided that such exceptions are approved by the local governing authority.

<u>Proposed law</u> removes the requirement that the local governing authority approve the qualified voter and residency exceptions.

(Amends R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(c) and 2536(B)(1)(c))