
DIGEST

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HB 633 Original

2025 Regular Session

Braud

Abstract: Reduces the membership of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East and changes the background requirements and the appointing authorities for board members. Specifies the composition and powers of the members of the boards of commissioners for the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFP-E) and the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West Bank (SLFP-W).

Present law creates the board of commissioners (board) for each flood protection authority which includes the board of the SLFP-E composed of the following nine members appointed by the governor from nominations submitted by the nominating committee:

- (i) Five members in an engineering or a science-related field with one of the members, being a civil engineer.
- (ii) Two members in any other discipline other than that occurring in present law with at least 10 years of professional experience in that discipline.
- (iii) Two members at large.

Proposed law modifies present law by reducing the membership from nine to seven and removes the requirement of appointment of by the governor for these members. Further reduces the number of members with engineering or science-related backgrounds from five to four and changes their background requirements as follows:

- (aa) One certified public accountant who is licensed in La.
- (bb) One attorney who is licensed in La.
- (cc) One member with a professional law enforcement background.
- (dd) One at large member.

Proposed law modifies present law by reducing the number of members in any other discipline other than that occurring in a science-related field from two to one. Further removes the 10-year professional experience requirement in that discipline. Requires that a member be appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the College of Engineering at La. State University (LSU).

Proposed law modifies present law by removing the requirement of two at large members and replacing it with a member appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering at the Southern University Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Proposed law requires a member be appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the School of Science and Engineering at Tulane University.

Present law requires the nominating committee for each board to be composed of members or designees from the following entities:

- (i) The Public Affairs Research Council of La.
- (ii) The Council for A Better La.
- (iii) The La. Geological Survey at LSU.
- (iv) The Assoc. of State Floodplain Managers.
- (v) The National Society of Black Engineers.
- (vi) The College of Engineering at the University of N.O.
- (vii) The School of Science and Engineering at Tulane University.
- (viii) The College of Engineering at Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
- (ix) The College of Engineering at LSU.
- (x) The American Society of Civil Engineers.
- (xi) The La. Engineering Society.

Proposed law modifies present law by specifying that the membership above composes the nominating committee for the SLFP-E board.

Present law requires the nominating committee also include a member or designee of the West Bank Business and Industry Assoc. and of Our Lady of Holy Cross College.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West Bank (SLFP-W) be the custodian of records of the nominating committee for their respective flood authority. Further requires the chairman of either the SLFP-E or the SLFP-W nominating committee, or in his absence, the regional directors, or in the absence of a regional director, the presidents of the boards to call the

meeting of the committee for their respective flood authority. Additionally, requires the regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the SLFP-E and SLFP-W boards or their designees, serve as secretary for the nominating committee for their respective flood authority.

Proposed law modifies present law by limiting the authority to a single director of the SLFP-W and eliminating the need for replacement in the absence of the regional director.

Present law requires the board notify the chair of the nominating committee and regional directors, or in his absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W of unexpected vacancy within the flood authority. Clarifies that a vacancy is unexpected whenever it occurs for a reason other than the expiration of a term. Requires the regional directors, or in his absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W cause notification of the unexpected vacancy to be published in the official journal of the state and of each parish within the territorial jurisdiction of the authority. Further requires the publishing of the notice of the unexpected vacancy no later 30 days following receipt by the regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W.

Proposed law modifies present law by eliminating the requirements for the board of the SLFP-E and limiting the authority to a single director of the SLFP-W.

Present law requires the nominating committee meet to determine the nominations for each unexpected vacancy within the time limitations set forth in present law. Further requires the committee consider each name submitted and select the nominees for each unexpected vacancy. Additionally, requires a majority vote for nominations and such nominations be submitted to the governor for consideration no later than 120 days after the notification of the occurrence of such unexpected vacancy to the regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W. Requires the governor appoint one of the nominees submitted by the committee within 30 days of submission of the nominations and submit an appointee to the Senate for confirmation 48 hours from the appointment.

Proposed law modifies present law by limiting the authority to a single director of the SLFP-W and eliminating the president of the SLFP-E as a replacement in the absence of a regional director.

Present law requires the governor appoint a qualified person within the time limitations set forth in present law if the nominating committee fails to submit a nominee within 120 days after the notice of an unexpected vacancy to the regional directors, or in the absence of a regional director, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W.

Proposed law modifies present law by limiting the authority to a single director of the SLFP-W and eliminating the president of the SLFP-E as a replacement in the absence of a regional director.

Present law requires the board notify the chair of the nominating committee and regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the boards of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W of any expected vacancy occurring the following year due to expiration of a term. Further requires the regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W boards publish a

notification of each expected vacancy in the official journal of the state and of each parish within the territorial jurisdiction of the authority. Provides that such notification be published no later than 30 days after receipt by the regional directors, or in their absence, the presidents of the SLFP-E and the SLFP-W boards.

Proposed law modifies present law by limiting the authority to a single director of the SLFP-W and eliminating the president of the SLFP-E as a replacement in the absence of a regional director.

Present law requires the nominating committee meet to determine the nominations to fill each expected vacancy at least 30 days after the latest date of the notice publication and no later than 90 days after the latest date of notice publication set forth in present law. Further requires the committee consider each name submitted and select the nominees for each expected vacancy who meet the requirements of present law. Additionally, requires the committee submit one nominee for an expected vacancy in a position provided for in present law and submit two nominees for each expected vacancy in a position provided for in present law. Provides that a majority vote is needed to nominate persons to positions on the board. The committee shall submit its nominations for each expected vacancy to the governor for consideration no later than thirty days prior to the start of regular session Provides the time limitations for the appointment of nominees.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires members of each board, at their first meeting, determine by lot their terms of office, which terms commence immediately upon their appointment and their expiration including all commissioners appointed, except a commissioner appointed to fill an unexpired term. Further requires the commissioners be appointed for staggered terms of four years and prohibits a member from serving more than two consecutive terms. Specifies that serving two years or more of an unexpired term constitutes a term. Authorizes a former board member be reappointed to the board after sitting out four years from the completion of his last consecutive term.

Proposed law modifies present law by allowing a member to serve three consecutive terms instead of two but otherwise retains present law.

Present law prohibits a person from serving on the board beyond the expiration of a term unless reappointed to a position on the board through the process required by present law.

Proposed law removes present law.

(Amends R.S. 38:330.1(C)(1)(a)(intro. para.) and (.
i)-(iii), (2)(a)(intro. para.) and (b) and (c), (3)(a)-(c), (4)(a) and (b), and (D)(2) and (3); Adds R.S.
38:330.1(C)(1)(a)(iv))