

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Commerce to Engrossed Senate Bill No. 37 by Senator Hensgens

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, delete lines 13 through 17 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"(1) A chairman of the commission shall be appointed from the state at large. Fourteen members shall be appointed in such manner that at least one shall be from each of the commission districts as listed below:

(a) Commission District 1 shall consist of the following parishes: Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, and Washington.

(b) Commission District 2 shall consist of the following parishes: Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John, St. James, and Tangipahoa.

(c) Commission District 3 shall consist of the following parishes: East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, St. Helena, Livingston, Assumption, and Pointe Coupee.

(d) Commission District 4 shall consist of the following parishes: Richland, Franklin, Union, Lincoln, Jackson, Winn, Caldwell, Ouachita, Morehouse, West Carroll, East Carroll, and Madison.

(e) Commission District 5 shall consist of the following parishes: Caddo, Bossier, Webster, DeSoto, Red River, Bienville, Claiborne, and Sabine.

(f) Commission District 6 shall consist of the following parishes: Rapides, Grant, LaSalle, Catahoula, Concordia, Avoyelles, Vernon, Tensas, and Natchitoches.

(g) Commission District 7 shall consist of the following parishes: Beauregard, Allen, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, and Evangeline.

(h) Commission District 8 shall consist of the following parishes: Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Iberia, Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Vermilion."

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, delete lines 1 through 16 in their entirety

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, delete lines 22 through 26 in their entirety

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 4, line 2, change "**Maintain**" to "**Maintains**"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 4, line 4, after "**(iii)**" change "**Be**" to "**Is**" and after "**and**" change "**be**" to "**is**"

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 4, line 17, after "**public,**" insert "**which shall constitute the dispute resolution panel,**"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 4, delete lines 23 through 29 in their entirety and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"(4)(a) All persons or parties to a dispute have the right to have any dispute, protest, complaint, or other contested matter heard and determined by the dispute resolution panel.

(b)(i) The dispute resolution panel shall exclusively exercise the adjudicatory authority of the commission, including the power to issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses, administer oaths, and receive evidence in connection with any hearing or other proceeding within its jurisdiction and render final decisions. This authority includes the power to order remedies and impose fines as authorized by this Chapter and Chapter 6-A of this Title, and Chapter 10-B of Title 6 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

(ii) In the exercise of its investigatory function, the executive director may issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses, administer oaths, and receive evidence.

(c) The jurisdiction of the dispute resolution panel shall include all disputes, protests, complaints, or other contested matters involving licensees of the commission or involving licensees of the commission and matters involving any person or entity operating without a required license, including those subject to licensure pursuant to this Chapter and Chapter 6-A of this Title, and Chapter 10-B of Title 6 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. The members of the dispute resolution panel shall not participate in nor vote on any of the other business of the commission.

(d) Nothing in this Paragraph shall preclude the commission from offering informal dispute resolution procedures prior to formal adjudication hearings, but no party shall be compelled to participate in informal resolution in lieu of a hearing before the dispute resolution panel.

(e) The dispute resolution panel shall elect a chair to serve as the presiding officer for each proceeding. The commission staff shall exercise the investigatory authority of the commission as delegated and subject to oversight by the commission."

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 5, delete lines 1 through 15 in their entirety

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 5, line 16, change "(c)" to "(f)"

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 5, line 20, change "(d)" to "(g)"

AMENDMENT NO. 11

On page 5, delete lines 23 and 24 and insert "action of the commission."

AMENDMENT NO. 12

On page 5, line 25, change "(e)" to "(h)(i)"

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 5, line 26, after "review" insert "pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.,"

AMENDMENT NO. 14

On page 5, line 28, after "law." delete the remainder of the line

1 AMENDMENT NO. 15

2 On page 5, delete line 29 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

3 **"(ii) For purposes of this Section, "aggrieved party" means any person**
 4 **whose legal rights, duties, or"**

5 AMENDMENT NO. 16

6 On page 6, line 2, change "**f**" to "**i**"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 17

8 On page 6, line 4, after "**Paragraph**" insert "**in lieu of the per diem paid to members of**
 9 **the commission**"

10 AMENDMENT NO. 18

11 On page 6, line 5, change "**attorney general**" to "**commission**"

12 AMENDMENT NO. 19

13 On page 6, line 6, after "**funds**" insert "**but shall not be less than the daily amount of**
 14 **compensation paid to retired judges or lawyers sitting pro tempore or ad hoc by**
 15 **appointment of the Louisiana Supreme Court, together with any expenses in an amount**
 16 **fixed by the commission and authorized by law**"