

SENATE BILL NO. 8

BY SENATOR MORRIS AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

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

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article X, Section 2(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to state civil service; to authorize additional positions in the unclassified state civil service by law; to prohibit the removal of such positions except by law; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article X, Section 2(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§2. Classified and Unclassified Service

Section 2.(A)

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(B) Unclassified Service. The unclassified service shall include the following officers and employees in the state and city civil service:

(1) elected officials and persons appointed to fill vacancies in elective offices;

(2) the heads of each principal executive department appointed by the governor, the mayor, or the governing authority of a city;

(3) city attorneys;

(4) registrars of voters;

(5) members of state and city boards, authorities, and commissions;

(6) one private secretary to the president of each college or university;

(7) one person holding a confidential position and one principal assistant or deputy to any officer, board, commission, or authority mentioned in (1), (2), (4), or (5) above, except civil service departments;

(8) members of the military or naval forces;

(9) teaching and professional staffs, and administrative officers of schools, colleges, and universities of the state, and bona fide students of those institutions employed by any state, parochial, or municipal agency;

(10) employees, deputies, and officers of the legislature and of the offices of the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, each mayor and city attorney, of police juries, school boards, assessors, and of all offices provided for in Article V of this constitution except the offices of clerk of the municipal and traffic courts in New Orleans;

(11) commissioners of elections, watchers, and custodians and deputy custodians of voting machines;

(12) railroad employees whose working conditions and retirement benefits are regulated by federal agencies in accordance with federal law; and

(13) the director, deputy director, and all employees of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Additional positions may be added to the unclassified service and those positions may be revoked by rules adopted by a commission. **Additional officers, positions, and employees may be added to the unclassified service in the state civil service by law and such additional officers, positions, and employees may be removed from the unclassified service only by law.**

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at a statewide election to be held on April 18, 2026, if House Bill No. 625 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana becomes effective. If House Bill No. 625 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana does not become effective, this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at a statewide election to be held on November 3, 2026.

1           Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election  
2           there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted  
3           to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as  
4           follows:

5                        "Do you support an amendment to allow the legislature to remove or add  
6                        officers, positions, and employees to the unclassified state civil service?"  
7                        (Amends Article X, Section 2(B))

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES