

# ACT No. 245

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVE GLORIOSO

## AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:2481.7 and 2541.7, relative to the fire and police civil service; to authorize the governing authority to create the position of chief of operations; to provide that the position is appointed on a competitive basis; to provide relative to the appointment, supervision, and discharge of any person in any such position; to provide relative to the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities for such position; to provide relative to departmental and promotional seniority; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:2481.7 and 2541.7 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

### §2481.7. Chief of operations; competitive appointment

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governing authority may create, by ordinance or resolution, the position of chief of operations in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The position shall be filled on a competitive basis from a list of eligibles as provided for in R.S. 33:2491, and the right of selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge for such position shall be vested in the fire chief, subject to approval of the appointing authority. In addition, the governing authority shall establish the job description, duties, requirements, and responsibilities of the chief of operations in the ordinance or resolution creating the position. Such duties and responsibilities may include direct supervision over all positions in the classified service below the rank of fire chief.

B.(1) The chief of operations shall have not less than twenty-five years of service in fire suppression and not less than one year of service as a confirmed battalion or district chief.

(2) Any person who holds the position of chief of operations may, while holding such position, apply for admission to the promotional examination for the class next higher than that from which he was appointed as chief of operations. However, the name and score of any chief of operations shall not be certified to the appointing authority by the civil service board as eligible for appointment to a position of the promotional class, and his name and score shall be eligible for certification, in accordance with the maximum period for which a name may remain on the eligibility list in accordance with the provisions of this Part, only upon demotion to a position of the class from which he was appointed as chief of operations.

(3) Eligibility for admission to the competitive test for chief of operations

shall be limited to members of the same department as the fire chief.

C.(1) Any person appointed to serve as chief of operations shall not forfeit his departmental seniority accumulated to the date of his appointment, and he shall continue to accumulate departmental seniority in accordance with the provisions of this Part during the time he holds the position of chief of operations.

(2) If any such person is demoted or otherwise vacates the position on the approval of the fire chief, he shall be demoted to a position in the class he held immediately preceding his appointment as chief of operations. If a chief of operations is subjected to corrective or disciplinary action, he shall have the same rights as any other employee in the municipal fire and police civil service.

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§2541.7. Chief of operations; competitive appointment

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governing authority may create, by ordinance or resolution, the position of chief of operations in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The position shall be filled on a

1 competitive basis from a list of eligibles as provided for in R.S. 33:2551, and the  
2 right of selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge for such position shall be  
3 vested in the fire chief, subject to approval of the appointing authority. In addition,  
4 the governing authority shall establish the job description, duties, requirements, and  
5 responsibilities of the chief of operations in the ordinance or resolution creating the  
6 position. Such duties and responsibilities may include direct supervision over all  
7 positions in the classified service below the rank of fire chief.

8 B.(1) The chief of operations shall have not less than twenty-five years of  
9 service in fire suppression and not less than one year of service as a confirmed  
10 battalion or district chief.

11 (2) Any person who holds the position of chief of operations may, while  
12 holding such position, apply for admission to the promotional examination for the  
13 class next higher than that from which he was appointed as chief of operations.  
14 However, the name and score of any chief of operations shall not be certified to the  
15 appointing authority by the civil service board as eligible for appointment to a  
16 position of the promotional class, and his name and score shall be eligible for  
17 certification, in accordance with the maximum period for which a name may remain  
18 on the eligibility list in accordance with the provisions of this Part, only upon  
19 demotion to a position of the class from which he was appointed as chief of  
20 operations.

21 (3) Eligibility for admission to the competitive test for chief of operations  
22 shall be limited to members of the same department as the fire chief.

23 C.(1) Any person appointed to serve as chief of operations shall not forfeit  
24 his departmental seniority accumulated to the date of his appointment, and he shall  
25 continue to accumulate departmental seniority in accordance with the provisions of  
26 this Part during the time he holds the position of chief of operations.

27 (2) If any such person is demoted or otherwise vacates the position on the  
28 approval of the fire chief, he shall be demoted to a position in the class he held  
29 immediately preceding his appointment as chief of operations. If a chief of

1           operations is subjected to corrective or disciplinary action, he shall have the same  
2           rights as any other employee in the municipal fire and police civil service.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_