
DIGEST

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HB 41 Original

2026 Regular Session

Dewitt

Abstract: Provides relative to the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) board of trustees.

Present law provides that membership on the FRS board of trustees includes the following:

- (1) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed by the speaker.
- (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement or his designee.
- (3) Two retirees of the system elected by a majority vote of the retirees and beneficiaries.
- (4) Three members of the La. Fire Chiefs' Assoc. elected by a majority of the officers of the association.
- (5) Two mayors appointed by the La. Municipal Assoc.
- (6) The state treasurer or his designee.
- (7) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the board additionally includes two members of the Professional Fire Fighters' Assoc. elected by a majority vote of the officers of the association.

Proposed law provides instead that the two members on the board be active members of the system with at least 10 years of service credit and be elected by a majority vote of the members of the system.

Proposed law limits the active members from serving more than three consecutive terms.

Present law provides that in the event a member of the board dies during his term of office, the vacancy is filled in a manner consistent with present law. Provides that if the status of a trustee changes such that he would no longer qualify, or he terminates employment or retires after participant in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), he shall continue to serve until his term expires. Provides that if any other vacancy occurs the vacancy shall be filled in a manner consistent with present law. Provides that if a trustee's term expires during DROP participation, he is eligible

to seek reelection during DROP participation.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires a vacancy of an active member be filled in accordance with proposed law and present law. Provides that if less than two years remain on an unexpired term of an elected trustee, the board must appoint someone to fill the unexpired vacancy within 60 days.

Proposed law provides that a board member's term ceases upon termination of employment with a fire department for any reason. Provides that the vacancy is filled in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law applies to terms of office beginning on or after January 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(intro. para.) and (a)(intro. para.) and (3); Adds R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(a)(iii))