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## DIGEST

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HB 447 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Lyons

**Abstract:** Creates the Avondale and Waggaman Economic Development District in Jefferson Parish.

Proposed law creates the Avondale and Waggaman Economic Development District as a political subdivision in Jefferson Parish to provide for cooperative economic and community development among the district, the parish, the state, and the owners of property in the district. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law provides that the district is governed by a seven-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the Avondale Civic Association who is a representative of the association.
- (2) One member appointed by the Waggaman Civic Associations who is a representative of the association.
- (3) One member appointed by the S1 Civic Association who is a representative of the association.
- (4) One member appointed by the Kennedy Heights Civic Association who is a representative of the association.
- (5) The member of the La. Senate whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district or his designee.
- (6) The member of the La. House of Representatives whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district or his designee.
- (7) The member of the governing authority of the parish of Jefferson who represents District No. 3 or his designee.

Proposed law provides that members serve four-year staggered terms.

Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the district, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) To sue and to be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To adopt bylaws and rules and regulations.
- (4) To receive by gift, grant, or donation any sum of money, property, aid, or assistance from the U.S., the state, or any political subdivision thereof, or any person, firm, or corporation.
- (5) To enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or private association, corporation, business entity, or individual.
- (6) To appoint officers, agents, and employees; prescribe their duties; and fix their compensation.

Proposed law provides that the district shall have no taxing authority.

Proposed law requires the board to prepare a plan(s) specifying public improvements, facilities, and services proposed to be furnished, constructed, or acquired which may be improvements, facilities, and services Jefferson Parish is authorized to provide pursuant to the constitution and laws of the state.

Proposed law requires the board to conduct hearings and disseminate information as it deems appropriate or advisable. Requires that any plan developed by the board include an estimate of the annual and total cost of acquiring, constructing, or providing the services, improvements, or facilities.

Proposed law authorizes all state officers and agencies to render services to the district within their respective functions as may be requested by the district. Additionally authorizes the district and the agencies to enter into contracts, cooperative endeavor agreements, or other agreements necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of proposed law

(Adds R.S. 33:2740.70.11)