

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1254 (Substitute for House Bill No. 484 by Representative Newell)

BY REPRESENTATIVE NEWELL

DISTRICTS/ECONOMIC DEVEL: Provides relative to the New Orleans Regional Business Park

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4702(B)(2)(introductory paragraph) and (f), (3), (4)(a), and
3 (6)(b) and (c), relative to Orleans Parish; to provide relative to the New Orleans
4 Regional Business Park; to provide relative to the board of commissioners; to
5 provide relative to the composition of the board; to provide relative to the
6 appointment and removal of board members; and to provide for related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
8 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
9 Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 33:4702(B)(2)(introductory paragraph) and (f), (3), (4)(a), and (6)(b)
12 and (c) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §4702. Board of commissioners; appointment and term; organization

14 * * *

15 B.

16 * * *

17 (2) The board shall be composed of ~~twelve~~ eleven members who shall be
18 appointed as follows:

19 * * *

1 (f) The mayor of the city of New Orleans shall appoint ~~five~~ four members
 2 as follows: ~~one member shall be appointed from a list of three names submitted by~~
 3 ~~the Vietnamese Initiatives in Economic Training, one member shall be appointed~~
 4 ~~from a list of three names submitted by the East New Orleans Neighborhood~~
 5 ~~Advisory Commission, one member shall be appointed from a list of three names~~
 6 ~~submitted by the New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce, one member~~
 7 ~~shall be appointed from a list of three names submitted by the board of~~
 8 ~~commissioners for the Port of New Orleans, and one member shall be appointed~~
 9 ~~from a list of three names submitted by The Greater New Orleans American~~
 10 ~~Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.~~

11 * * *

12 (3)(a) Each board member shall serve ~~a term of two years~~ at the pleasure of
 13 the appointing authority.

14 (b) Any vacancy in the membership of the board occurring by reason of the
 15 expiration of the term of office, or by reason of death, resignation, disqualification,
 16 or otherwise, shall be filled by the respective ~~nominating entity~~ appointing authority
 17 within sixty days after receipt by such ~~nominating entity~~ appointing authority of
 18 written notification of the vacancy. ~~In the event that~~ If the respective ~~nominating~~
 19 ~~entity~~ appointing authority fails to fill the vacancy within sixty days after receipt of
 20 written notification of the vacancy, the remaining members of the board shall appoint
 21 an interim successor to serve on the board until the position is filled by the respective
 22 ~~nominating entity~~ appointing authority responsible for the appointment of such
 23 member. If the remaining members of the board ~~fails~~ fail to fill a vacancy in ~~its~~ their
 24 membership within the next sixty day period, the mayor shall appoint such member.
 25 Any board member appointed by the remaining members of the board or mayor
 26 pursuant to this Subparagraph may be replaced at any time by ~~the nominee of the a~~
 27 member appointed by the appointing authority.

28 (c) Any member who has unexcused absences of four consecutive meetings,
 29 regular and special, of the board in any calendar year shall be disqualified and

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 removed automatically from office and that person's position shall be vacant, as of
2 the first day of the succeeding calendar year. Such vacated position shall be filled
3 by the respective ~~nominating entity~~ appointing authority for the balance of the
4 vacated term within fifteen days. The former member shall not be eligible to be
5 ~~nominated~~ appointed to the board or to serve on the board again.

6 (4)(a) ~~Five~~ Six members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the
7 transaction of business. The board shall keep minutes of all regular and special
8 meetings and shall make them available to the public in conformance with law.

9 * * *

10 (6)

11 * * *

12 (b) Any member of the board ~~appointed pursuant to Subparagraphs (2)(a)~~
13 ~~through (k) of this Subsection~~ may be removed by his respective appointing authority
14 at any time, ~~with cause~~.

15 (c) No board member ~~appointed pursuant to Subparagraph (2)(a), (b), (c), (f),~~
16 ~~or (g), of this Subsection~~ shall sit on the board beyond the end of the term of office
17 of the appointing authority that appointed that board ~~member without being~~
18 ~~reappointed to the board in the manner for which appointments to the board are~~
19 ~~provided for in Paragraph (2) or (3) of this Subsection.~~ member; provided however,
20 the board member shall be eligible for reappointment.

21 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1254 Engrossed 2026 Regular Session Newell

Abstract: Changes the composition of the board of commissioners of the New Orleans Regional Business Park.

Present law creates the New Orleans Regional Business Park as a political subdivision in Orleans parish for the purpose of stimulating industrial and commercial development in Orleans Parish and the parishes adjacent to Orleans Parish. Provides for district boundaries and powers and duties.

Present law provides that the district is governed by a 12-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the U.S. representative who represents La.'s 2nd congressional district.
- (2) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 4.
- (3) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 3.
- (4) One member appointed by the state senator from Senate District 1.
- (5) One member appointed by the councilperson representing council district E, in which the New Orleans Regional Business Park is located.
- (6) Five members appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans from a list of three names submitted by each of the following entities:
 - (a) The Vietnamese Initiatives in Economic Training.
 - (b) The East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission.
 - (c) The New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce.
 - (d) The board of commissioners for the Port of New Orleans.
 - (e) The Greater New Orleans American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.
- (7) One member appointed by the state representative from House District 99.
- (8) One member appointed by the state representative from House District 100.

Proposed law reduces the membership of the board from 12 to 11 by reducing the number of appointments granted to the mayor from five to four. Removes the requirement that the mayor make appointments from a list of three names submitted by the specified entities. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that members serve two-year terms. Proposed law provides that each member serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Present law requires that any vacancy be filled by the respective nominating entity within 60 days after receipt by such nominating entity of written notification of the vacancy. Provides that if the respective nominating entity fails to fill the vacancy within 60 days after receipt of written notification of the vacancy, the board shall appoint an interim successor to serve on the board until the position is filled by the respective nominating entity. Provides that if the board fails to fill a vacancy in its membership within the next 60 day period, the mayor shall appoint such member. Provides that any board member appointed by the board or mayor may be replaced at any time by the nominee of the appointing authority.

Proposed law replaces the reference to nominating entity with appointing authority. Specifies that the remaining members of the board shall appoint an interim successor when a vacancy is not filled within 60 days. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that any member who has unexcused absences of four consecutive meetings, regular and special, of the board in any calendar year shall be disqualified and removed automatically from office. Provides that the position shall be vacant as of the first day of the succeeding calendar year. Provides that the vacated position shall be filled by the

respective nominating entity for the balance of the vacated term within 15 days. Provides that the former member shall not be eligible to be nominated to the board or to serve on the board again.

Proposed law replaces the reference to nominating entity with appointing authority. Otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides that any member of the board may be removed by his respective appointing authority at any time with cause. Proposed law removes the cause requirement.

Present law provides that no board member appointed by certain ex officio appointing authorities shall sit on the board beyond the end of the term of office of the appointing authority that appointed the board member without being reappointed pursuant to present law.

Proposed law prohibits board members appointed by all appointing authorities from serving beyond the end of the term of the respective appointing authority; provides however, that the board members are eligible for reappointment.

Present law provides that five members constitute a quorum. Proposed law provides that six members constitute a quorum.

(Amends R.S. 33:4702(B)(2)(intro para.) and (f), (3), (4)(a), and (6)(b) and (c))