ENROLLED

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 374

BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHARDSON

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

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:423(C), relative to municipal police chiefs; to provide relative to the powers granted to an elected police chief in any municipality governed by the Lawrason Act; to authorize the police chief to effect disciplinary action, dismiss police personnel, and to make provisional appointments to fill vacancies in the police department; to provide limitations and exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:423(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§423. Duties of marshal

* * *

C.(1)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this Section or any other law to the contrary, the elected chief of police of any municipality governed by the provisions of this Part is authorized to immediately effect disciplinary action on police personnel and to dismiss any such personnel subject to the approval of the governing authority of the municipality. Any such disciplinary action or dismissal shall be deliberated by the governing authority at the first special or regular meeting of the governing authority after any such determination has been made by the chief of police.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the elected chief of police in any municipality with a population of not less than one thousand persons and not more than one thousand five persons as of the latest federal decennial census is authorized to effect disciplinary action on police personnel without the approval of the governing authority of the municipality.

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

(2)(a) The chief of police is additionally authorized to make a provisional appointment to immediately fill any vacancy in the police department occurring by reason of death, resignation, termination, or otherwise subject to the approval of the mayor of the municipality. Any such action taken by the chief of police shall be deliberated at the first special or regular meeting of the governing authority of the municipality after any such provisional appointment has been approved by the mayor. Any such provisional appointment shall remain in effect unless rejected by the governing authority of the municipality.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the elected chief of police in any municipality with a population of not less than one thousand persons and not more than one thousand five persons as of the latest federal decennial census is authorized to appoint police personnel, including the authority to make provisional appointments, subject to the budgetary limitations of the chief of police pertaining to the number of allotted positions for the police department. All appointments shall be subject to the concurrence of the mayor of the municipality.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

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