HLS 13RS-30 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 426

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARMES

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

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES CMN: (Constitutional Amendment) Adds members to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article IX, Section 7(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide relative to the membership of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission; to add members to such commission; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to

amend Article IX, Section 7(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§7. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Section 7.(A) Members; Terms. The control and supervision of the wildlife of the state, including all aquatic life, is vested in the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The commission shall be in the executive branch and shall consist of seven ten members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Six Nine members shall serve overlapping terms of six nine years, and one member shall serve a term concurrent with that of the governor. Three members shall be electors of the coastal parishes and representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries, one member shall reside in Northwest Louisiana, one member shall reside in North Central Louisiana, and one member shall reside in Northeast Louisiana with each section of the northern portion of the state to be delineated by

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1 <u>law</u>, and four shall be electors from the state at large other than representatives of the 2 commercial fishing and fur industries, as provided by law. No member who has 3 served six nine years or more shall be eligible for reappointment. 4 5 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4, 6 7 2014. 8 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, 9 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted 10 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as 11 follows: 12 Do you support an amendment to add three members representing North Louisiana to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission? (January 1, 2015) 13 14 (Amends Article IX, Section 7(A))

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)]

Armes HB No. 426

Abstract: Adds to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission three members from North La.

<u>Present constitution</u> establishes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission with seven members. Specifies the representation for the membership and the length of the term of office.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> would retain the <u>present constitutional provision</u> and add three members to the commission. Would provide that the new members be residents of parishes located in the northern portion of the state. Increases the term of office <u>from</u> six years <u>to</u> nine years and retains the overlapping nature of the terms.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const Art. IX, §7(A))