

---

## 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 159 Original

2016 Regular Session

Smith

**Abstract:** Relative to the Capital Area Transit System, removes requirement for approval of certain board actions by the appropriate parish governing authority.

Present law creates the Capital Area Transit System, as a political subdivision of the state, to operate public transportation in East Baton Rouge Parish and in additional participating parishes that elect to participate. Provides that the system is governed by a board of commissioners. Provides relative to the membership of the board.

Present law provides for the powers and duties of the board, including the following:

- (1) To sue or be sued.
- (2) To receive and acquire the transit system operated in East Baton Rouge Parish and to maintain and expand that system and its facilities in East Baton Rouge Parish and within the area of participating parishes, including the construction and operation of bus rapid transit and light rail systems, and generally to construct, improve, maintain, repair, operate, and administer a mass transportation system.
- (3) To acquire, own, use, and dispose of any franchise, servitude, real or personal property, tangible or intangible property, or any interest therein.
- (4) To contract with any public utility, railroad, or transportation company for the joint use of property or rights, or for the establishment of through routes, joint fares, or transfer of passengers.
- (5) To levy taxes, subject to voter approval.
- (6) To borrow money and incur debt.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law additionally grants to the board, subject to the approval of the appropriate parish governing authority, the exclusive power to determine the appropriate fares, rentals, and other charges for transportation provided to the public and to determine the appropriate routes, schedules, and other parameters for the provision of transportation services. Proposed law removes the requirement for approval of such actions by the appropriate parish governing authority. Otherwise

retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 48:1460(9))