HLS 16RS-641 ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 251

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANEY

AGRICULTURE: Provides relative to the state soil and water conservation commission

1 AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:1204(A)(1)(a)(introductory paragraph) and (C)(3), relative to
the state soil and water conservation commission; to modify the membership of the
soil and water conservation commission; to remove the requirement that the
Department of Agriculture and Forestry perform audits on the state soil and water

commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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Section 1. R.S. 3:1204(A)(1)(a)(introductory paragraph) and (C)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1204. State soil and water conservation commission

A.(1)(a) There is hereby established, to serve as an agency of the state and to perform the functions conferred upon it in this Part, a state soil and water conservation commission. The commission shall consist of eight members. The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Louisiana State University Vice President of Agriculture and Dean of the College of Agriculture, the commissioner of agriculture and forestry of Louisiana, and the president of the Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts shall automatically be members of this commission. Each shall designate a person to represent him at meetings at which he cannot be present, and the person so designated by each shall serve, in the absence of the officer who selects him, with the same power and authority as that

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

officer, including the right to vote. In the case of the Louisiana Association of 1 2 Conservation Districts president, his alternate shall be the vice president of the 3 association. The other five members shall be elected, one from each of the following 4 areas of the state: 5 C. 6 7 8 (3) The commission shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all 9 employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; shall provide 10 for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings and all resolutions, 11 regulations, and orders issued or adopted; shall provide for an annual examination 12 of the accounts of receipts and disbursements and an annual examination of all districts; and shall provide for a complete audit at least once every four years of the 13 14 accounts of receipts and disbursements and of all districts, all of which shall be 15 performed by the audit and evaluation section of the Department of Agriculture and 16 Forestry and filed with the legislative auditor. 17

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 251 Original

2016 Regular Session

Chaney

Abstract: Provides relative to the membership of the state soil and water conservation commission and who performs audits for all of the commissions districts.

<u>Present law</u> specifies that the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center is a member of the state soil and water conservation commission.

<u>Proposed law</u> modifies <u>present law</u> by replacing the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center with the Louisiana State University Vice President for Agriculture and Dean of the College of Agriculture.

<u>Present law</u> requires audits at least once every four years for all districts within the state soil and water conservation commission to be performed by the audit and evaluation section of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry and filed with the legislative auditor.

<u>Proposed law</u> modifies <u>present law</u> by removing the requirement that the audit be performed by the audit and evaluation section of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry.

(Amends R.S. 3:1204(A)(1)(a)(intro. para.) and (C)(3))