SLS 16RS-1109 **REENGROSSED**

2016 Regular Session

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SENATE BILL NO. 447

BY SENATOR APPEL AND REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

LEASES. Provides relative to leases or subleases of immovable property owned, leased or controlled by a public benefit corporation. (gov sig)

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 41:1212(G) and 1215(B)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) and to
3	enact R.S. 41:1215(D), (E), and (F), relative to public benefit corporations; to
4	provide relative to certain procedures and requirements; to provide relative to leases
5	or subleases of immovable property owned, leased or controlled by a public benefit
6	corporation; to provide certain terms and conditions; and to provide for related
7	matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. R.S. 41:1212(G) and 1215(B)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) are hereby
10	amended and reenacted and R.S. 41:1215(D), (E), and (F) are hereby enacted to read as
11	follows:
12	§1212. Lands which may be leased; purposes; leases of sixteenth section lands for
13	agricultural purposes; negotiation of surface leases of school lands;
14	negotiation of leases by certain public benefit corporations;
15	negotiation of leases for administering buildings designated as
16	historic landmarks
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requirements:

1 G. Whenever a public benefit corporation formed by the city of New Orleans 2 or Orleans Parish, through its chief executive officer for the purposes of owning, leasing, developing, and operating properties owned by the public benefit 3 4 corporation or the political subdivision, leases any property owned by the public 5 benefit corporation or the political subdivision, such public benefit corporation shall 6 not be required to advertise for and receive bids as hereinafter provided for in this 7 Part for other leases. Such leases entered into shall provide for a fair and equitable 8 return of revenue to the public benefit corporation or political subdivision. A public 9 benefit corporation that meets the requirements of R.S. 41:1215(B) shall not be 10 required to advertise for and receive bids as hereinafter provided for in this 11 Part for other leases. Such leases entered into shall comply with the provisions 12 of R.S. 41:1215(C), and shall be subject to the provisions of R.S. 41:1215(B) 13 through (F). 14 §1215. Opening of bids; execution of leases; exceptions; public benefit corporations; 15 16 negotiated lease to nonprofit organizations 17 B. For the purposes of this Part a "public benefit corporation" is defined to 18 19 be a nonprofit corporation formed pursuant to the general nonprofit corporation law of the state of Louisiana, except those formed pursuant to specific constitutional or 20 21 statutory authority, by a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana through its chief executive officer for the purposes of owning, leasing, developing, and 22 operating properties owned by such political subdivision or by such public benefit 23 24 corporation, including but not limited to planning, renovating, constructing, leasing,

(1) The corporation must not be organized for profit except to the extent of retiring indebtedness.

subleasing, managing, and promoting such properties, which activity is declared to

constitute a public purpose, and which shall meet each of the following

(2) The corporate income must not inure to any private person except for operating expenses; salaries and other operating expenses;.

- (3) The political subdivisions must have a beneficial interest in the corporation while the indebtedness issued by the corporation to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of property remains outstanding and it must obtain full legal title to the property of the corporation with respect to which the indebtedness was incurred upon retirement of such indebtedness;
- (4) Nonprofit corporations which meet the requirements of a public benefit corporation as set forth herein and which own, lease, sublease, or control immovable property shall not be required to advertise for and receive bids as provided for in this Part, provided that any lease or sublease entered into by and between such nonprofit corporation and a third party be approved by the governing body of such political subdivision on behalf of which the corporation exercises its powers. Such leases or subleases be negotiated and let in **the discretion and business judgment of the public benefit corporation in** accordance with objective criteria **established or applied by the public benefit corporation** relating to a balance of factors including but not limited to highest rent or highest percentage of gross profits, quality control of products, financial stability, architectural design, development and management of operational plan, uniqueness of operation, and overall economic importance to the primary objective of stimulating other industrial or commercial activity within such development the political subdivision or the state;
- (5) In the event that any person or other entity be unsuccessful in the bid for the lease or sublease of immovable property owned, leased or controlled by a public benefit corporation such person or other entity may, not later than thirty days following the occurrence of such event, appeal to the district court in which the political subdivision is located for such relief as may be provided by law. If no appeal is taken within said thirty day period, any such claim shall be prescribed;
- (6) The corporation must be approved by the political subdivision creating it and any specific obligations issued or made by the corporation must also be

approved by said political subdivision;

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D.(1) In the event that any person or other entity challenges, seeks to nullify, or seeks to enjoin a lease or sublease of immovable property owned, leased or controlled by a public benefit corporation, including but not limited to any person or entity that was unsuccessful in being selected for the lease or sublease, such person or other entity may appeal to or file suit in the district court in which the political subdivision is located for such relief as may be provided by law, only by following the procedure set forth in this Section.

- (2) In the case of an appeal or suit by a person or entity that was unsuccessful in being selected for the lease or sublease, such appeal or suit must be filed not later than thirty days following the occurrence of such event. In the case of a suit or appeal by any other person or entity, such appeal or suit must be filed not later than thirty days following the selection of the lessee or sublessee. If no appeal is taken or suit is filed within the thirty-day period, any such claim shall be prescribed.
- (3) On the application of the public benefit corporation to the court, any person or other entity that files, or has filed, an appeal or suit pursuant to R.S. 41:1215(B)(5) and (D)(1) and (2) shall be required to furnish security to assure the satisfaction of any damages, costs or expenses, or losses to the public benefit corporation, political subdivision, state, lessee or sublessee which may result, directly or indirectly, from the filing of the appeal or suit, in such amount as may be fixed by the court, but not less than the following:
- (a) For those leases or subleases with a term that is up to twenty-five years in length, an amount equal to the total amount of rent payable to the public benefit corporation over the initial five-year period of the lease or sublease, or over the term of the lease or sublease, if the term is shorter than five years.
 - (b) For those leases or subleases with a term greater than twenty-five

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1 years, an amount equal to the total amount of rent payable to the public benefit 2 corporation over the initial ten-year period of the lease or sublease. The court 3 shall fix the amount of security within thirty days of the filing of the application 4 by the public benefit corporation. If such security is provided through a commercial surety bond, the bond shall provide that the principal and the 5 surety are bound in solido for the amount thereof. On the failure to furnish such 6 7 security within thirty days from the court's determination of the amount of the 8 security, or such lesser time as established by the court, the appeal or suit shall 9 be dismissed with prejudice. 10 E. All leases or subleases executed by a public benefit corporation under 11 the provisions of this Part shall be for a period not exceeding thirty years and 12 shall provide for a rental payable in cash in a lump sum or installments, at the 13 discretion of the lessor. F. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection E of this Section and 14 R.S. 41:1217, any lease or sublease executed by a public benefit corporation 15 16 under the provisions of this Part, in the city of New Orleans, shall be for a period not exceeding ninety-nine years and shall provide for a rental payable 17 18 in cash in a lump sum or installments, at the discretion of the lessor. 19 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to all leases entered into by public benefit corporations after the effective date of this Act, and all claims, suits or appeals 20 21 pending on the effective date of this Act and all claims, suits or appeals filed on or after the 22 effective date of this Act. Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not 23 24 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature 25 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 26

effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument was prepared by Benjamin A. Huxen, II. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Ann S. Brown.

DIGEST 2016 Regular Session

Appel

SB 447 Reengrossed

<u>Present law</u> regarding public benefit corporations provides that whenever a public benefit corporation formed by the city of New Orleans or Orleans Parish, through its chief executive officer for the purposes of owning, leasing, developing, and operating properties owned by the public benefit corporation or the political subdivision, leases any property owned by the public benefit corporation or the political subdivision, such public benefit corporation shall not be required to advertise for and receive bids as hereinafter provided for in this Part for other leases. Such leases entered into shall provide for a fair and equitable return of revenue to the public benefit corporation or political subdivision.

<u>Proposed law</u> eliminates <u>present law</u> and provides that a public benefit corporation that meets the requirements of <u>present law</u> and <u>proposed law</u> is not required to advertise for and receive bids for other leases. Leases must comply with the provisions of <u>present law</u>, and shall be subject to the provisions of present law and proposed law.

<u>Present law</u> provides that political subdivisions must have a beneficial interest in a public benefit corporation while indebtedness issued by the corporation to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of property remains outstanding and must obtain full legal title to the property of the corporation with respect to which the indebtedness was incurred upon retirement of such indebtedness. <u>Proposed law</u> eliminates <u>present law</u> regarding indebtedness.

Proposed law further modifies the criteria for letting leases.

<u>Proposed law</u> further provides the procedure for any person or other entity who challenges, seeks to nullify, or seeks to enjoin a lease or sublease of immovable property owned, leased or controlled by a public benefit corporation including the giving of certain security.

<u>Proposed law</u> further provides for terms of lease, including that in the city of New Orleans a lease or sublease shall be for a period not exceeding 99 years and shall provide for a rental payable in cash in a lump sum or installments.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that it shall be applicable to leases entered into by public benefit corporations after the effective date of this Act, and to claims, suits or appeals pending on the effective date or filed on or after the effective date.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 41:1212(G) and 1215(B)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6); adds R.S. 41:1215(D), (E), and (F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical corrections.