

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 184

BY SENATOR HEWITT

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. Provides for the appointment of members to the nominating committee for the board of commissioners of St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 2. (8/1/21)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 46:1098.5(B)(6) and (C), 1098.6(B)(1)(a), and 1098.7(21) and (23), relative to the St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 2; to provide for the appointment of members to the nominating committee for the board of commissioners; to provide relative to terms of the board of commissioners; to provide relative to meetings; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 46:1098.5(B)(6) and (C), 1098.6(B)(1)(a), and 1098.7(21) and (23) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1098.5. Appointing authority

\* \* \*

B. The appointing authority shall be composed of seven members as follows:

\* \* \*

(6) ~~Two appointees of the~~ **The** state senator and the state representative in whose district Slidell Memorial Hospital resides, **or their designees.**

1 C. The state senator shall be responsible for ensuring the proper appointment  
 2 of all members of the ~~nominating committee~~ **appointing authority** pursuant to this  
 3 Section, calling and providing proper notice of all meetings of the ~~nominating~~  
 4 ~~committee~~ **appointing authority**, and maintaining all appropriate documentation of  
 5 the ~~nominating committee~~ **appointing authority**. ~~The nominating committee shall~~  
 6 ~~select annually a chairman to conduct meetings of the committee.~~ **The state senator**  
 7 **shall serve as the chairperson of the appointing authority.**

8 \* \* \*

9 §1098.6. Qualifications of board of commissioners

10 \* \* \*

11 B.(1)

\* \* \*

12 (a) No member of the board, whether appointed by recommendation of the  
 13 nominating committee or the medical staff, shall serve more than three consecutive  
 14 terms. **One term shall consist of four years, with the exception of Subsection (b)**  
 15 **and (c) below.**

16 \* \* \*

17 §1098.7. Rights, powers, and duties of board of commissioners

18 The district acting by and through its board shall have and exercise all rights,  
 19 powers, and duties for the carrying out of its objects and purposes including but not  
 20 limited to the following:

21 \* \* \*

22 (21) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, to annually  
 23 appoint, **if desired,** a former member of the board to serve as a nonvoting  
 24 "Commissioner Emeritus" to advise and provide historical perspective to the board  
 25 when requested by the chairman. Such person shall be paid a per diem equal to that  
 26 paid to other board members for attendance at the meeting together with reasonable  
 27 expenses to attend any event attended by the board of commissioners. The  
 28 "Commissioner Emeritus" may not serve longer than one year.

29 \* \* \*

1 (23) To hold regular meetings at least monthly and as often as necessary for  
 2 the conduct of its business. Special meetings may be called upon ~~with~~ **at least**  
 3 forty-eight hour notice by the chairperson, or in his absence, by the vice chairperson,  
 4 or upon the written authorization of a majority of the members of the board.  
 5 Emergency meetings, providing notice of at least twenty-four hours, may be called  
 6 by the chairperson, or in his absence, by the vice chairperson, or by any three  
 7 members of the board.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

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DIGEST

SB 184 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Hewitt

Present law provides that commissioners appointed to the board, except those named by the Slidell Memorial Hospital medical staff, will be chosen by the appointing authority as provided for in present law, from nominations received from the nominating committee composed of nine members. Members of the permanent nominating committee will be appointed from entities outlined in this present law and will submit a copy of their appointments to the state senator in whose district Slidell Memorial Hospital resides. The state senator will be responsible for ensuring the proper appointment of all members of the nominating committee.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the state senator will be responsible for ensuring the proper appointment of all members of the nominating committee, calling and providing proper notice of all meetings of the nominating committee, and maintaining all appropriate documentation of the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall select annually a chairperson to conduct meetings of the committee.

Proposed law makes a technical change in terminology from the "nominating committee" to the "appointing authority".

Proposed law provides that the state senator will serve as the chairperson of the appointing authority.

Present law provides that the appointing authority shall be composed of seven members as follows:

- (1) One appointee of the Slidell city council who resides within the city limits of Slidell.
- (2) One appointee of the mayor of Slidell who resides within the city limits of Slidell.
- (3) One appointee of the St. Tammany Parish council who resides within the geographical boundaries of the district.
- (4) One appointee of the St. Tammany Parish president who resides within the geographical boundaries of the district.

- (5) One appointee of the governing authority of the town of Pearl River who resides within the corporate limits of Pearl River.
- (6) Two appointees of the state senator and the state representative in whose district Slidell Memorial Hospital resides.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that the senator and representative, or their designee, will be a member of the appointment authority.

Present law provides that no member of the board, whether appointed by recommendation of the nominating committee or the medical staff, will serve more than three consecutive terms.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that one term will consist of four years, unless:

- (1) An appointee is named to fill the term of a member who has left the board and less than two years remain in the term, that appointee's term will not be considered one of the three consecutive terms to which a member is limited; or
- (2) An appointee is named to fill the term of a member who has left the board and more than two years remain in the term, that appointee's term will be considered one of the three consecutive terms to which a member is limited.

Present law provides that board shall have the power to annually appoint a former member of the board to serve as a nonvoting "Commissioner Emeritus" to advise and provide historical perspective to the board when requested by the chairman. Such person shall be paid a per diem equal to that paid to other board members for attendance at the meeting together with reasonable expenses to attend any event attended by the board of commissioners. The "Commissioner Emeritus" may not serve longer than one year.

Proposed law retains present law but makes the appointment of "Commissioner Emeritus" optional.

Present law provides that special meetings may be called with 48-hour notice by the chairperson, or in his absence, by the vice chairperson, or upon the written authorization of a majority of the members of the board.

Proposed law retains present law but makes technical change.

Effective August 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 46:1098.5(B)(6) and (C), 1098.6(B)(1)(a), and 1098.7(21) and (23))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to the original bill

- 1. Deletes duplicative provisions regarding responsibility for proper appointment of nominating committee.
- 2. Changes to provide senator and representative are members of appointing authority.
- 3. Adds that the annual appointment of a former member of the board as a nonvoting "Commissioner Emeritus" is optional.