

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 274 (HB 135)

2021 Regular Session

Carrier

Existing constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 Constitution made statutory by the 1974 Constitution. Existing law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Existing law, relative to both systems, provides that the classified service shall comprise every position, except those in the unclassified service, to which the right of employee selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge is vested in the government of the parish, municipality, or fire protection district, or in an officer or employee thereof. Provides that the positions of police chief and assistant police chief are in the classified service. Provides further with respect to which positions are in the classified and unclassified service.

Existing law additionally authorizes the governing authority to create, by ordinance, the competitive classified position of deputy police chief. Provides that the right of selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge is vested in the police chief, subject to approval of the appointing authority. Further provides that the position of deputy police chief is not the same as the position of assistant police chief as provided in existing law.

Existing law generally requires the deputy police chief to have at least eight years of full-time law enforcement experience and to hold at least the rank of sergeant in the classified police service at the time of his appointment. Provides exceptions for the cities of Jennings and St. Martinville.

New law provides an additional exception for the city of Oakdale. Requires the deputy police chief to have at least three years of full-time law enforcement experience and to have successfully completed a certified training program approved by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Existing law provides that the deputy police chief serves indefinitely in the classified competitive position but requires that he be evaluated every three years by the police chief. Authorizes the police chief to reconfirm the deputy police chief for another three-year period or demote him to his former class of positions.

New law makes an exception for the city of Oakdale; requires annual evaluation and reconfirmation of the deputy police chief.

Effective August 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 33:2541.1(C)(1); Adds R.S. 33:2541.1(B)(1)(d))