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HB 864 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Davis

Abstract: Provides for changes to the makeup and functions of the Board of La. River Pilot Review and Oversight, including changes to membership of the board, how pay for the judge member is determined, changes to the rule review process, changes to quorum and vote requirements; and requirements for board funding.

Present law sets the makeup of the board as 11 governor-appointed members.

Proposed law changes the number of board members from 11 to nine.

Present law provides for three board members to be former judges.

Proposed law changes the number of judge members from three to one.

Present law provides that members are not to be compensated, with the exception that the judge members be paid a per diem of not more than $150 and requires that the judge members be entitled to reasonable expenses as authorized by the chairman of the board.

Proposed law retains present law relative to the judge member receiving per diem except that the judge member's per diem determination is changed to the same per diem established by the La. Supreme Court for ad hoc or pro tempore judges.

Proposed law repeals present law relative to the judge member being entitled to reasonable expenses.

Present law requires the board meet twice a year and provides that six members makes a quorum. Present law further provides that a vote by the majority of the board constitutes a decision of the board.

Proposed law retains present law meeting requirements but reduces the number needed for a quorum from six to five. Proposed law changes the vote needed to constitute a decision of the board from a majority of the board to a majority of the board present.

Present law requires the board to review proposed rules or regulations from the Board of Commissioners or Examiners and allows the board to approve or reject the proposed rules or regulations within 90 days.

Proposed law retains the present law requirement that the board review proposed rules or regulations
but adds that the review shall be conducted and approval of the rule shall be received prior to the Board of Commissioners or Examiners initiating the promulgation of proposed rules pursuant to the process outlined in the Administrative Procedure Act in present law.

Proposed law further provides a procedure for the adoption of emergency regulations or rules.

Present law sets requirements for expenditures and funding of the board.

Proposed law adds to those requirements that each year on Jan. 1, there is required to be not more than $50,000 of available funding, and requires the administrative entity of each pilot group to pay to the board the pro-rata share for the commissioned pilots it represents.

(Amends R.S. 34:1133(B), (C)(7), (G), 1134(A), and 1135(B); Adds R.S. 34:1136(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Remove the ability of the judge member to receive reasonable expenses.