



receives a grade of "D" or "F" under the Community Drinking Water Infrastructure Sustainability Act of 2021 shall not be required to conduct an election to authorize the sale or lease of the utility if the governing authority finds by official action that the municipality is either financially, managerially, or technically unable to restore the utility to a grade of "C" or better.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law, any municipality or parish within the state of Louisiana shall have the authority to create, organize, and establish districts and commissions within its jurisdictional boundaries through passage of an ordinance. Districts and commissions that already have been established by law prior to the enactment of this statute shall remain in full effect and continue to operate under the terms of each entity's respective enabling statutes or ordinances.

Present law provides that the various levee and drainage districts shall have control over all public drainage channels or outfall canals within the limits of the districts which are selected by the district, and for a space of 100 ft. on both sides of the banks of such channels or outfall canals, and 100 ft. continuing outward from the mouth of such channels or outfall canals.

Proposed law provides that the various levee and drainage districts, and local governing bodies, shall have a legal servitude by which control is given to the local governing body or district over all public drainage channels or outfall canals within the limits of their districts which are selected by the district, and for a space of 100 ft. on both sides of the banks of such channels or outfall canals, and 100 ft. continuing outward from the mouth of such channels or outfall canals.

Proposed law provides that property may not be taken or damaged by the districts or local governing for public purposes and with just compensation paid to the owner.

Proposed law provides that the regulation or prohibition of drainage into a public system that is not authorized by a natural servitude or other legal right does not constitute a taking or damaging of property.

Proposed law provides that the local governing authority, body, or district shall be immune from damage to its public works project by excessive, unlawful drainage into its system.

Present law provides that the several parishes of Louisiana, Orleans Parish excepted, may expropriate land and the improvements thereon, outside of regularly organized and acting levee districts, necessary for the construction of drainage canals or drainage projects with enough of the adjoining property on which to build spoil banks and on which to place the dirt removed from the drainage canals, and any property next to or in the vicinity of the canals or projects necessary for the construction, inspection, repair, and maintenance of the canals or projects.

Present law provides that the parishes may acquire by expropriation, in the same manner now required by existing laws regulating expropriation suits, either a clear title to the land and improvements thereon or any servitude, right, or interest necessary for that purpose.

Proposed law provides that local governing bodies, Orleans Parish excepted, shall have the

expropriation power contained in present law.

Present law provides that the several parishes shall thoroughly drain all public roads which are parallel or contiguous to any public levee, shall cut across public roads all ditches and drains necessary to effect the complete and perfect drainage of the roads and levees, and shall connect the drains and ditches with those on private property abutting on the road.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that local governing bodies shall have the responsibility of drainage all public roads which are parallel or contiguous to any public levee, shall cut across public roads all ditches and drains necessary to effect the complete and perfect drainage of the roads and levees, and shall connect the drains and ditches with those on private property abutting on the road.

Present law provides that no person shall dump or discharge or permit to be dumped or discharged into any waters or drains of the state any trees or other objects, substances, or materials which might interfere with the drainage.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that no person shall dump or discharge or permit to be dumped or discharged into any waters or drains of the state any trees or other objects, substances, or materials which might interfere with the drainage.

Proposed law repeals the Union Parish Railroad District.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 33:404(A)(intro para), 4341 and 4342, R.S. 38:113, 141, 142 and 214; adds R.S. 33:9720; repeals R.S. 33:130.621.1)