

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 588

BY REPRESENTATIVES MENA AND BOYD

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 48:1655(A)(1)(c)(ii) and (2) and (I)(1) and (2), 1656(23), and  
3 1656.1(B)(3), (C)(2) through (5), (D), and (E) and to repeal R.S. 48:1656(24)  
4 through (26), relative to the Regional Transit Authority; to provide for the  
5 membership of the board of commissioners; to provide for certain powers and  
6 authority of the board; to require transit-specific training for members added to the  
7 board; to require a minimum of ten meetings per year for board members; to provide  
8 for voting and quorum; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 48:1655(A)(1)(c)(ii) and (2) and (I)(1) and (2), 1656(23), and  
11 1656.1(B)(3), (C)(2) through (5), (D), and (E) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as  
12 follows:

13 §1655. Board of commissioners; membership; terms

14 A.(1) The board of commissioners of the authority shall be composed of  
15 three members from each participating parish appointed by the chief executive  
16 officer of that parish, subject to the approval of its governing authority, one member  
17 appointed by the New Orleans City Council, one member appointed from House  
18 District 102 by the state representative representing the district beginning on  
19 September 1, 2024, and this appointment shall rotate every four years thereafter  
20 between the member appointed from the house district and a member appointed from  
21 Senate District 7 by the state senator representing the district, and two members

1 appointed by the chief executive officer of the parish with the greatest percentage of  
2 public transit revenue operating miles from recommendations of the legislative  
3 delegation of that parish as follows:

4 \* \* \*

5 (c)

6 \* \* \*

7 (ii) If any participating parish opts out of the Regional Transit Authority  
8 after August 1, 2024, the ~~mayor~~ chief executive officer of the parish or governing  
9 authority shall have the power to appoint two new members to the board.

10 (2) Each member appointed by the chief executive officer of a parish shall  
11 be domiciled within the parish. Further, each member appointed to the authority by  
12 ~~the parish legislator~~ shall possess the minimum transit expertise standards and  
13 ~~required training and previous union experience~~ commit to completing at least two  
14 hours of transit-specific training either before taking office or no later than one year  
15 after the office is assumed. The transit minimum standards shall be established by  
16 the board of commissioners by January 1, 2025, and shall then apply to all newly  
17 appointed commissioners.

18 \* \* \*

19 I.(1) The board shall hold at least ~~one meeting each month~~ ten meetings per  
20 year. The secretary of the board shall give written notice and agenda ~~to each~~  
21 ~~member of the board at least five days prior to any meeting~~. The secretary shall be  
22 ~~informed of any meeting so as to provide for his giving notice as above in~~ in  
23 accordance with R.S. 42:19.

24 (2) In order to conduct any official meeting, a quorum is required. A  
25 quorum shall consist of sufficient members present to constitute two-thirds of the  
26 weighted vote, and at least one representative of a majority of the parishes  
27 comprising the authority. A majority of the quorum present at a meeting may  
28 exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the board, except as otherwise  
29 hereinafter provided or as limited by its bylaws. If there is only one parish  
30 represented on the board of commissioners, a simple majority of the regular





1                   E. Any city or parish with appointments and representation on the Regional  
2                   Transit Authority board of commissioners shall have the authority to request an  
3                   internal audit of the Regional Transit Authority or, at its expense, hire a third party  
4                   to perform the audit. Any work hours by an employee of the authority that are  
5                   dedicated to support the third-party audit shall be reimbursed by the city or parish  
6                   requesting the third-party audit. All records and information requested in the audit  
7                   shall be provided in an expedited manner by the Regional Transit Authority. ~~A city~~  
8                   ~~or parish council may levy fines on the Regional Transit Authority.~~  
9                   Section 2. R.S. 48:1656(24) through (26) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_