

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 41

BY REPRESENTATIVE DEWITT

RETIREMENT/FIREFIGHTERS: Provides relative to board membership of the Firefighters' Retirement System

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(introductory paragraph) and (a) and (3) and to
3 repeal R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(b), relative to the Firefighters' Retirement System; to
4 provide relative to certain members of the board of trustees; to provide for
5 qualifications; to provide for elections; to provide relative to vacancies on the board
6 of trustees; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
8 as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution
9 of Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(introductory paragraph) and (a) and (3) are hereby
12 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §2260. Administration

14 A. Board of trustees:

15 * * *

16 (2) The board shall consist of at least thirteen trustees as follows:

17 (a) ~~Two members of the Professional Fire Fighters Association who shall be~~
18 ~~members~~ Five active members of the system ~~and who shall be elected by a majority~~
19 ~~of the officers of the association as follows:~~ who shall have at least ten years of
20 service credit and who shall be elected by active members of the system as follows:

1 members shall remain in office until the board members are elected as provided in this Act
2 and take office.

3 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
4 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
5 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
6 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
7 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 41 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Dewitt

Abstract: Provides relative to the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) board of trustees.

Present law provides that membership on the FRS board of trustees includes the following:

- (1) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed by the speaker.
- (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement or his designee.
- (3) Two retirees of the system elected by a majority vote of the retirees and beneficiaries.
- (4) Two mayors appointed by the La. Municipal Assoc.
- (5) The state treasurer or his designee.
- (6) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the board additionally includes two members of the Professional Fire Fighters' Assoc. (PFFA) elected by a majority vote of the officers of the association.

Proposed law provides instead that the five members on the board be active members of the system with at least 10 years of service credit and be elected by a majority vote of the active members of the system. Provides that three members be members of the PFFA, one is not member of the PFFA, and one member is a member of the La. Fire Chiefs Assoc.

Present law provides that the board additionally includes three members of the La. Fire Chiefs Assoc. elected by a majority of the officers of the association.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law provides that in the event a member of the board dies during his term of office, the vacancy is filled in a manner consistent with present law. Provides that if the status of a trustee changes such that he would no longer qualify, or he terminates employment or

retires after participant in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), he shall continue to serve until his term expires. Provides that if any other vacancy occurs the vacancy shall be filled in a manner consistent with present law. Provides that if a trustee's term expires during DROP participation, he is eligible to seek reelection during DROP participation.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires a vacancy of an active member be filled in accordance with proposed law and present law.

Proposed law provides that the terms of the current elected members of the board of trustees terminate upon the effective date of proposed law; however, such members remain in office until the board members are elected as provided in proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(intro. para.) and (a) and (3); Repeals R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(b))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Remove proposed provision concerning term limits.
2. Provide that active members of the board of trustees are elected by active members of the system.
3. Provide that three members elected are members of the Professional Fire Fighters Association and two members are elected by nonmembers of the Professional Fire Fighters Association.
4. Remove proposed provisions authorizing the board of trustees to fill a vacancy by appointment with less than two years left of the term.
5. Add provisions repealing present law appointment of fire chiefs to the board of trustees by the La. Fire Chiefs Association.
6. Provide that upon the effective date of proposed law, the terms of certain members serving on the board terminate; however, such members remain on the board of trustees until members are elected as provided in proposed law.
7. Provide that proposed law is effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.
8. Make technical changes.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Reduce the nonmembers of the Professional Fire Fighters Association elected to the board of trustees from two to one.
2. Provide that one member of the La. Fire Chiefs Association be elected to the board of trustees.
3. Make technical change.