
DIGEST

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HB 892 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Hilferty

Abstract: Creates the West End Economic Development District in the parishes of Jefferson and Orleans.

Proposed law creates the West End Economic Development District as a political subdivision in the parishes of Jefferson and Orleans to promote and encourage economic and commercial development and tourism opportunities. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law provides that the district is governed by a five-member board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) Two members appointed by the member of the governing authority of Jefferson Parish who represents District No. 5.
- (2) Two members appointed by the member of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans who represents District A.
- (3) One member appointed by the president of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans.

Proposed law provides that members serve five-year staggered terms. Requires that members serve without compensation, but authorizes reimbursement for expenses incurred while attending to the business of the board or the district.

Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the district, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) To sue and to be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To adopt bylaws and rules and regulations.
- (4) To receive by gift, grant, or donation any sum of money, property, aid, or assistance from the U.S., the state, or any political subdivision thereof, or any person, firm, or corporation.
- (5) To enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political

subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or private association, corporation, business entity, or individual.

- (6) To appoint officers, agents, and employees; prescribe their duties; and fix their compensation.

Proposed law authorizes the district to levy a sales tax not to exceed 2%. Requires that the tax be imposed and collected uniformly throughout the jurisdiction of the district. Provides that the tax shall be in addition to all other taxes other political subdivisions within the jurisdiction of the district are authorized to levy and collect. Requires that any monies received by the district be used exclusively for the benefit of the district and to fund economic development projects and infrastructure improvement projects located within a specified area.

Effective July 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 33:2740.70.11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make changes to the boundaries of the district.
2. Remove requirement that the sales tax be voter approved.