

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 283

2026 Regular Session

Barrow

May 31, 2026

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 283 by Senator Barrow, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

1. That House Floor Amendment No. 1 proposed by Representative Marcelle and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 26, 2026, be rejected.
2. That the following amendments to the Reengrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "R.S. 33:9038.82" insert "and 9038.83"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 3, after "special districts" insert "in the city of Baton Rouge; to provide relative to cooperative economic development in and around Baton Rouge Community College; to provide for the creation of special taxing districts for such purposes" and after "Harding" insert "Area"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, line 4, after "District;" delete the remainder of the line and insert "to create the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District; to provide for the boundaries of the districts; to provide for the governance of the districts; to provide for the powers and duties of the districts,"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 1, line 9, change "is" to "are" and on line 10, after "R.S. 33:9038.82" delete "is" and insert "and 9038.83 are"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 7, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

"§9038.83. Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District
A. There is hereby created in the parish of East Baton Rouge, in which Baton Rouge Community College, referred to in this Section as "the college", is located, the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District, referred to in this Section as "BRCC EDD". The purpose of the BRCC EDD is to provide for cooperative economic and community development among the district, the college, the local governmental subdivision, the state, and the owners of property in the district. As used in this Section, the terms "college economic development district" or "district" refer to the BRCC EDD created pursuant to this Section. The college economic development district is a political subdivision of the state having all of the rights, powers, privileges, and immunities in accordance with the laws of this state and the Constitution of Louisiana, subject to the limitations provided in this Section.

B.(1) Boundaries for the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District. The BRCC EDD generally encompasses an area within the city of Baton Rouge and the parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana generally bounded to the north by the south Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard, to the east by the Fairfax Heights Subdivision, to the south by Government Street Corridor EDD (EBR Ordinance 45531) and to the west by Wards Creek subject to, and less and except, the exclusions as defined in the ("district exclusions"), and being more fully described as follows:

Commence at the point of intersection of the south Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard and west boundary of Lot 43-B of Hickey Town subdivision located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence easterly along said Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard to the intersection of the east Right-of-Way of Community College Drive being common with the westerly boundary of Lot A-2-A-1 of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "A" located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence southerly along said Right-of-Way of Community College Drive to intersection of the south boundary of said Lot A-2-A-1;

Thence easterly and northerly along the south and east boundaries of said Lot A-2-A-1 to the intersection of the south Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard;

Thence easterly along said Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard to the intersection of the east boundary of Tract 3C of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "A" located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence southerly along the east boundaries of Tracts 3C, 3B, 3A and 2 of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "A" located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana to the intersection of the south boundary of said Tract 2 of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "A";

Thence westerly along said boundary of Tract 2 of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "A" to the intersection of the east Right-of-Way of Community College Drive;

Thence southerly along said Right-of-Way of Community College Drive to intersection of the north boundary of Tract B-V-A2-B of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "B" located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence easterly, southerly and westerly along the north, east and south boundaries of said Tract B-V-A2-B of the Stephen B. Jones, Et Al Tract "B" to the intersection of east Right-of-Way of Community College Drive;

Thence southerly along said Right-of-Way of Community College Drive approximately 558 feet to a point;

Thence turning approximately 88 degrees to the right and continue westerly across Community College Drive to the intersection of the east boundary of Lot D-1-A of the J. D. Garig Tract located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence continue westerly along said boundary of Lot D-1-A to the intersection of the east boundary of a 0.625 Acre Tract of the J. D. Garig Tract located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence northerly along said boundary of 0.625 Acre Tract to the intersection of the north boundary of Lot said 0.625 Acre Lot;

Thence westerly along the north boundaries of 0.625 Acre Tract, 0.833 Acre Tract, and Lot 10-A of the J. D. Garig and Lots 9-A, 7-A, 6, 5, 4 and 1 of Square 2 of Piper Place, all being located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana to the intersection of the east Right-of-Way of South Foster Drive;

Thence southerly along said Right-of-Way of South Foster Drive to the intersection of the north Right-of-Way of Garig Avenue;

Thence easterly along said Right-of-Way of Garig Street to the intersection of the east boundary of Lot 9-A of Square 2 of Piper Place;

Thence turning approximately 90 degrees to the right and continue southerly across Garig Street to the intersection of the north boundary of Tract 8-A-1 of Square 1 of Piper Place located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence continue southerly along the east boundary of said Lot 8-A-1 approximately 160 feet to a point being the southwest corner of Lot 11 of Square 1 of Piper Place located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence turning approximately 90 degrees to the right and continue westerly across said Lot 8-A-1 approximately 200 feet to a point being the southeast corner of Lot 17 of Square 1 of Piper Place, located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence continue westerly along the south boundaries of Lots 17 and 21 of Square 1 of Piper Place, located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana to the intersection of the east Right-of-Way of South Foster Drive;

Thence turning approximately 19 degrees to the left and continue westerly across South Foster Drive to the intersection of the west Right-of-Way of South Foster;

Thence continue northly along said Right-of-Way of South Foster to the intersection of the south boundary of Lot A-2 of the former Second Presbyterian Church Property located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

The westerly and northerly along the south and west boundaries of said Lot A-2 the former Second Presbyterian Church Property to the intersection of the south boundary of Lot A being a subdivision of 6.63 acre tract of the Piper Estate located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence westerly along said boundary of Lot A to the intersection of the east boundary of Tract X-3 of the Millard Byrd Property located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana;

Thence southerly along the east boundaries of said Tract X-3 and Lot B-2-4 of the Baton Rouge Water Works Co Property located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana approximately 591 feet to a point being along the east servitude line of 75 foot wide Wards Creek servitude within said Lot B-2-4;

Thence northerly along said Wards Creek servitude line through said Lot B-2-4 and Tract X-2 of the Millard Byrd Property located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana to the intersection of the south Right-of-Way of North Boulevard;

Thence continue northerly across North Boulevard and along the west boundaries of Square 40 and Lot 43-B of Hickey Town located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana to the intersection of the south Right-of-Way of Florida Boulevard, all being common with the east servitude line of Wards Creek and being the point of beginning.

(2) District exclusions. The following areas shall be excluded from the BRCC EDD:

Area 1 (Hickey Town Sq 40 & 41) Lot A-1 of a Resubdivision of Square 40 and Square 41 1 of Hickey Town located in Section 81, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana.

Area 2 (Convention Oaks) Lots 1 through 13 of Convention Oaks located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana.

Area 3 (Pecan Alley) Lot B being a subdivision of 6.63 acre tract of the Piper Estate and units A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, B-2, B-3, C-1, C-2, D-1, D-2, E-1, E-2, E-3, F-1, F-2, F-3, G-1, G-2, G-3, H-1, H-2, I-1, I-2, J-1, J-2, J-3, J-4, J-5, K-1, K-2, L-1, L-2, M-1, M-2, N-1, N-2, N-3, N-4, N-5 of Pecan Alley located in Section 82, Township 7 South, Range 1 East, Greensburg Land District, Louisiana.

(3)(a) General residential property exclusion. Notwithstanding anything in this above property description to the contrary, whether specifically

identified or not, no portion of the BRCC EDD shall include any tract of land that is used for residential purposes, except for hotels, motels, inns, or bed and breakfasts for temporary occupancy, in any form or fashion, including, without limitation, private or public homes, residences, housing, dwellings, apartments, studios, flats, townhomes, condominiums, cooperatives, residential rooms, residential beds, dormitories, student residences and housing, student apartments, fraternity houses, sorority houses, student residential quarters, or other form of housing, as of the effective date of this Act individually and collectively "residential properties". All residential properties are deemed district exclusions. In the event that the description of the BRCC EDD set forth above includes any of the district exclusions, such district exclusion shall not be considered as a component of the BRCC EDD.

(b) Whether specifically identified or not, no portion of the BRCC EDD shall include the district exclusions which include any tract of land that is used for residential purposes, except for hotels, motels, inns, or bed and breakfasts for temporary occupancy, in any form or fashion, including, without limitation, private or public homes, residences, housing, dwellings, apartments, studios, flats, townhomes, condominiums, cooperatives, residential rooms, residential beds, dormitories, student residences and housing, student apartments, fraternity houses, sorority houses, student residential quarters, or other form of housing, as of June 30, 2026, individually and collectively "residential properties". All residential properties are deemed district exclusions. In the event that the description of the BRCC EDD set forth in Subsection (B)(1) of this Section includes any of the district exclusions, the BRCC EDD exclusion shall not be considered as a component of the BRCC EDD.

(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the property descriptions provided in this Section, whether specifically identified or not, no portion of the BRCC EDD shall include any tract of land that is used for residential purposes, except for hotels, motels, inns, or bed and breakfasts for temporary occupancy, in any form or fashion, including, without limitation, private or public homes, residences, housing, dwellings, apartments, studios, flats, townhomes, condominiums, cooperatives, residential rooms, residential beds, dormitories, student residences and housing, student apartments, fraternity houses, sorority houses, student residential quarters or other form or housing, as of January 24, 2026, individually and collectively "residential properties". All residential properties are deemed district exclusions. In the event that the description of the BRCC EDD set forth in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph includes any of the district exclusions, the district exclusion shall not be considered as a component of the BRCC EDD.

C.(1) The district shall be administered and governed by a board of commissioners, referred to in this Section as the "board".

(2) The board shall be comprised as follows:

(a) The highest executive officer of the college shall appoint four persons and shall serve as a member of the board and chairman of the board as long as he is the highest executive officer of the college.

(b) Two of the members of the board shall be representatives from businesses within the district.

(3) Members shall serve five-year terms after initial terms as provided by the ordinance creating the district. The president shall serve as long as he is president of the college. Two members shall serve an initial term of two years, and two members shall serve an initial term of three years, as determined by lot at the first meeting of the board. Each member of the board shall continue to serve until reappointed or a successor is duly appointed. Any vacancy in the membership of the board shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment for the unexpired term. If an appointment to fill a vacancy is not made within sixty days, the board shall appoint an interim successor to serve until the position is filled by the appointing authority.

(4) Any member of the board may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the remaining membership of the board for cause, which may include failure to attend at least one-half of the meetings of the board in a two-year period.

(5) The members of the board shall serve without salary or per diem. The board may reimburse any member for reasonable, actual, and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties pursuant to this Section.

(6) The board shall elect from its members a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer, whose duties shall be those common to these offices. At the option of the board, the offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

(7) The board shall meet in regular session at least once per year and shall also meet in special session as often as the president of the board convenes the board or upon the written request of at least three members. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The board shall keep minutes of all meetings and shall make them available for inspection through the board's secretary or secretary-treasurer, who shall also maintain the minute books and archives of the district. The monies, funds, and accounts of the district shall be in the official custody of the board.

(8) The domicile of the board shall be established by the board at a location within the district. The official journal of the district is the official journal of the parish where the domicile of the board is located.

D. The district, acting by and through its board, shall have and exercise all powers of a political subdivision necessary or convenient for the carrying out of its objects and purposes, 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 acquire by gift, grant, or purchase all property, including rights-of-way, movable, immovable, or mixed, corporeal or incorporeal, or any interest therein.

(4) To enter into contracts for the purchase, acquisition, construction, and improvement of works and facilities necessary in connection with the purposes of the district.

(5) To regulate the imposition of fees and rentals charged by the district for its facilities and services rendered by it.

(6) To borrow money and pledge all or part of its revenues, leases, rents, or other advantages as security for the loans.

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

(8) To develop public improvement projects for the benefit of the respective college, either directly with the respective college or through one or more private foundations or nonprofit corporations affiliated with the respective college, or both.

E.(1) The district may create subdistricts as provided in this Subsection. The district shall publish notice of its intent to create a subdistrict in the official journal of the district. At least ten days after publication of the notice, the board shall conduct a public hearing on the question of creating the subdistrict. Thereafter, the board may designate one or more areas within the boundaries of the district as subdistricts of the district. Each subdistrict shall constitute a political subdivision of the state and shall be governed by the board. Each subdistrict shall have the same powers as the district and shall be given a suitable name as the board may designate. Hereafter in this Section, any reference to the district includes any subdistrict created by the district.

(2) The boundaries of a district may be changed in accordance with provisions of this Section dealing with the establishment of the original boundaries.

F.(1) The district may issue and sell from time to time bonds, notes, renewal notes, refunding bonds, interim certificates, certificates of indebtedness, certificates of participation, debentures, warrants, commercial paper, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness to provide funds for and to fulfill and achieve its public purpose or corporate purposes, as set forth in this Section, including but not limited to the payment of all or a portion of the costs of a project, to provide amounts necessary for any corporate purposes, including necessary and incidental expenses in connection with the issuance of the

obligations, the payment of principal and interest on the obligations of the district, the establishment of reserves to secure the obligations, and all other purposes and expenditures of the district incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out its public functions or corporate purposes, and any credit enhancement for the obligations.

(2) Except as may otherwise be provided by the board, all obligations issued by the district shall be negotiable instruments and payable solely from the revenues of the district as determined by the board, or from any other source that may be available to the district but shall not be secured by the full faith and credit of the state or the local governmental subdivision.

(3) Obligations shall be authorized, issued, and sold by a resolution or resolutions of the board. The bonds or obligations may be of the series; bear the date or dates; mature at the time or times; bear interest at the rate or rates, including variable, adjustable, or zero interest rates; be payable at the time or times; be in the denominations; be sold at the price or prices, at public or private negotiated sale, after advertisement as is provided for in R.S. 39:1426; be in the form; carry the registration and exchangeability privileges; be payable at the place or places; be subject to the terms of redemption; and be entitled to the priorities on the income, revenue, and receipts of, or available to, the district as may be provided by the board in the resolution or resolutions providing for the issuance and sale of the bonds or obligations of the district.

(4) The obligations of the district shall be signed by the officers of the board by either manual or facsimile signatures as shall be determined by resolution or resolutions of the board and may have impressed or imprinted thereon the seal of the district or a facsimile thereof.

(5) Any obligations of the district may be validly issued, sold, and delivered, notwithstanding that one or more of the officers of the board signing the obligations, or whose facsimile signature or signatures may be on the obligations, shall have ceased to be the officer of the board at the time the obligations shall actually have been delivered.

(6) Obligations of the district may be sold in the manner and from time to time as may be determined by the board to be most beneficial, subject to approval of the State Bond Commission, and the district may pay all expenses, premiums, fees, or commissions which it may deem necessary or advantageous in connection with the issuance and sale thereof.

(7) The board may authorize the establishment of a fund or funds for the creation of a debt service reserve, a renewal and replacement reserve, or other funds or reserves as the board may approve with respect to the financing and operation of any project funded with the proceeds of the bonds and as may be authorized by any bond resolution, trust agreement, indenture of trust, or similar instrument or agreement pursuant to the provisions of which the issuance of bonds or other obligations of the district or subdistrict may be authorized.

(8) Any cost, obligation, or expense incurred for any of the purposes or powers of the district specified in this Subsection shall be a part of the project costs and may be paid or reimbursed as such out of the proceeds of bonds or other obligations issued by the district; however, no portion of any state sales taxes made directly available to the district pursuant to an agreement with the state shall be used by the district to pay the costs of constructing or operating any privately owned hotel located within the district without the consent of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget or its successor.

(9) For a period of thirty days from the date of publication of the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds hereunder, any persons in interest shall have the right to contest the legality of the resolution and the legality of the bond issue for any cause, after which time no one shall have any cause or right of action to contest the legality of the resolution or of the bonds authorized thereby for any cause whatsoever. If no suit, action, or proceeding is begun contesting the validity of the bond issue within thirty days, the authority to issue the bonds and to provide for the payment thereof and the legality thereof and all of the provisions of the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds, shall

be conclusively presumed, and no court shall have authority to inquire into the matters.

(10) Neither the members of the board nor any person executing the bonds shall be personally liable for the bonds or be subject to any personal liability by reason of the issuance thereof. No earnings or assets of the district shall accrue to the benefit of any private persons. However, the limitation of liability provided for in this Paragraph shall not apply to any gross negligence or criminal negligence on the part of any member of the board or person executing the bonds.

(11) All obligations authorized to be issued by the district pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection, together with interest thereof, income therefrom, and gain upon the sale thereof shall be exempt from all state and local taxes.

(12) The state and all public officers; any parish, municipality, or other subdivision or instrumentality of the state; any political subdivision; any bank, banker, trust company, savings bank and institution, building and loan association, savings and loan association, investment company, or any person carrying on a banking or investment business, any insurance company or business, insurance association, and any person carrying on an insurance business; and any executor, administrator, curator, trustee, and other fiduciary; and any retirement system or pension fund may legally invest any sinking funds monies; or other funds belonging to them or within their control in any bonds or other obligations issued by the district pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection, and the bonds or other obligations shall be authorized security for all public deposits. It is the purpose of this Section to authorize the persons, firms, corporations, associations, political subdivisions and officers, or other entities, public or private, to use any funds owned or controlled by them, including but not limited to sinking, insurance, investment, retirement, compensation, pension, and trust funds, and funds held on deposit, for the purchase of any bonds or other obligations of the district or subdistrict, and that the bonds shall be authorized security for all public deposits. However, nothing contained in this Section with regard to legal investments or security for public deposits shall be construed as relieving any person, firm, corporation, or other entity from any duty of exercising reasonable care in selecting securities.

G. The district shall dissolve and cease to exist upon the later to occur of either one year after the date on which all loans, bonds, notes, and other evidences of indebtedness of the district, including refunding bonds, are paid in full as to both principal and interest or fifty years from the creation of the district.

H. This Section, being necessary for the welfare of the state, the parish, and its residents, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes thereof."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator W. Jay Luneau

Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry

Senator Regina Ashford Barrow

Representative C. Denise Marcelle

Senator Gerald Boudreaux

Representative Candace N. Newell

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

SB 283

2026 Regular Session

Barrow

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. Creates the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District and the BLVD at Harding Area Special District and in the city of Baton Rouge. (gov sig)

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Changed the effective date of proposed law.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Create the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law (R.S. 33:9032) provides that tax increment financing ("TIF") is when a local governmental subdivision issues revenue bonds payable solely from tax increments, in an amount to be determined by the local governmental subdivision to finance or refinance an economic development project or any part thereof or to pay all or a portion of the costs of an economic development project as described in present law (R.S. 33:9035).

Present law (R.S. 33:9038.31) provides that "issuer" means the local governmental subdivision, economic development district, industrial development board of the municipality or parish authorized and created pursuant to present law, a public trust with the municipality or parish as the beneficiary thereof as provided in present law, as authorized in present law, the Walnut Street Special District, any Tax Increment Development Corporation activated in a municipality with a population of not less than 3,300 and not more than 3,395 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census for the purposes provided for in present law (R.S. 33:9038.68), or any district created pursuant to present law (R.S. 33:9038.70 or 9038.77).

Proposed law retains present law and includes the BLVD at Harding Area Special District in the definition of "issuer".

Present law (R.S. 33:9038.31) provides that "local governmental subdivision" means any municipality or parish or any municipality, parish, local industrial board, a local public trust authorized pursuant to present law (R.S. 33:9038.33(N) or 9038.34(N)) having jurisdiction over the geographical area bounded by the Mississippi River, the Orleans/Jefferson parish line and the Orleans/Plaquemines parish line, the Walnut Street Special District, any Tax Increment Development Corporation activated in a municipality with a population of not less than 3,300 and not more than 3,395 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census for the purposes provided for in present law (R.S. 33:9038.68), or any district created pursuant to present law (R.S. 33:9038.70 or 9038.77). Further provides that the provisions of present law shall not apply to any of the financing of construction, renovations, or improvements of any convention center, hotel complex, and ancillary facilities within the city of Shreveport.

Present law applies to the parish of Rapides, only as provided in present law (R.S. 33:9038.41).

Proposed law retains present law and includes the BLVD at Harding Area Special District in the definition of "local governmental subdivision".

Proposed law creates the BLVD at Harding Area Special District in the city of Baton Rouge as a special district and political subdivision of the state to provide for cooperative economic development between the district, the city of Baton Rouge, and the owner or owners of businesses and other property within the district in order to provide for costs related to infrastructure within the district as determined by the board of commissioners of the district.

Proposed law provides for the boundaries of the district.

Proposed law provides that the district is to be administered by a board of commissioners as follows:

- (1) The mayor of the city of Baton Rouge, or his designee.
- (2) The member of the La. House of Representatives whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district shall appoint two persons.
- (3) The member of the La. Senate whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district shall appoint two persons.
- (4) The member of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district shall appoint one person.
- (5) Any person who is an owner of property within the district, or an authorized representative of an entity which is an owner of property within the district, if such person or authorized representative applies to the board for membership on the board, or that person's or representative's designee.

Proposed law provides that the members of the board serve without salary or per diem and are entitled to reimbursement for reasonable, actual, and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Proposed law provides that the board must elect from its own members a president and secretary, whose duties shall be common to such offices or as may be provided by bylaws adopted by the district. Provides that all meetings are public meetings subject to the provisions of present law (R.S. 42:11 et seq.). Further provides that the domicile of the board must be established by the board at a location within the city of Baton Rouge.

Proposed law provides that the district has the rights and powers common to special districts including to incur debt and issue bonds, notes, and other indebtedness in its own name and on its own behalf.

Present law authorizes entities defined as "local governmental subdivisions" to implement ad valorem tax (R.S. 33:9038.33) and sales tax increment financing (R.S. 33: 9038.34) and to issue revenue bonds backed by a pledge of the tax increments to finance all or any part of an "economic development project".

Present law (R.S. 33:9038.35) authorizes "local governmental subdivisions" to enter into a joint venture or cooperative endeavor for a public purpose with a federal, state, or local governmental agency or with a private or public firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity.

Present law (R.S. 33:9038) authorizes the "local governmental subdivisions" to issue revenue bonds and other bonds and forms of indebtedness.

Present law (R.S. 33:9039) authorizes local governmental subdivisions to levy an ad valorem tax of up to five mills and two percent of sales tax after the governing authority of the district gives notice and meets in open and public session to hear any objections and the favorable vote of a majority of the electors of the district voting in an election.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that the tax increase may be levied only after the governing authority of the district has called a special election submitting the proposition for the levy of such taxes to the qualified electors of the district and the proposition has received the favorable vote of a majority of the electors voting in the election; however, in the event there are no qualified electors in the district as certified by the registrar of voters, no such election shall be required.

Proposed law defines the BLVD at Harding Area Special District as an issuer and a local governmental subdivision for purposes of utilizing such TIF authority in present law.

Proposed law specifically grants to the district all the ad valorem, sales tax, and occupancy tax increment finance and bonding authority, and the ad valorem and sales tax levy authority granted to "local governmental subdivisions", and deems the project to fund infrastructure within the district to be an "economic development project" within the meaning of the TIF laws.

Proposed law provides that the district may also pledge any taxes collected under the authority of proposed law to any economic development project in furtherance of the purposes of the district. Further provides that the financing may include but shall not be limited to loans, mortgages, the issuance of bonds, or the issuance of certificates of indebtedness.

Proposed law provides that the district must dissolve and cease to exist one year after the date all indebtedness of the district is paid in full as to both principal and interest, but under no event can the district have an existence of less than three years.

Proposed law provides that proposed law must be liberally construed to effect its purposes.

Proposed law creates the Baton Rouge Community College Economic Development District ("BRCC EDD"). Provide that the purpose of the BRCC EDD is to provide for cooperative economic and community development among the district, the colleges, the parish or municipal governing authority, the state, and the owners of property in the district.

Proposed law provides for the boundaries of the district.

Proposed law provides that the district shall be governed by a board of commissioners, comprised as follows:

- (1) The highest executive officer of the college.
- (2) Four persons appointed by the highest executive officer of the college.

Proposed law provides that two of the members of the board shall be representatives from business within the district.

Proposed law provides that members serve five-year terms, with vacancies filled in the manner of the original appointment. Provides that the president shall serve as long as he is president of the college. Further provides that two members shall serve an initial term of two years, and two members shall serve an initial term of three years, as determined by lot at the first meeting of the board.

Proposed law provides that if an appointment to fill a vacancy is not made within 60 days, the board shall appoint an interim successor to serve until the position is filled by the appointing authority. Further authorizes removal of a commissioner for cause by a 3/4 vote of the board. Provides that members serve without compensation but authorizes reimbursement of expenses.

Proposed law provides that the official journal of the district is the official journal of the parish where the domicile of the board is located.

Proposed law provides that a district created pursuant to proposed law is a political subdivision of the state and has the powers of a political subdivision. Further provides that such powers include the power to develop public improvement projects for the benefit of the

respective college, either directly with the respective college or through one or more private foundations or nonprofit corporations affiliated with the respective college, or both.

Proposed law authorizes the district to create subdistricts which are governed by the board of commissioners and that have the same powers as the district.

Proposed law authorizes the district to issue bonds and to otherwise incur debt. Provides requirements and procedures therefor.

Proposed law provides that the district shall dissolve and cease to exist one year after the date on which the debt of the district is paid in full, or 50 years from the date of the creation of the district, whichever occurs later.

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

(Amends R.S. 33:9038.31(2) and (3); adds R.S. 33:9038.82 and 9038.83)