## DIGEST

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HB 26 Engrossed	2018 Regular Session	Pearson
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Abstract: Adds certain employers to the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of La. (MERS) and removes provisions relative to mayors in office on June 15, 2004.

Participating employers in MERS are enumerated in <u>present law</u>, either by name or by class of employers; employers in an authorized class must enter into an agreement with the board including terms set out by <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds the Firefighters' Pension and Relief Fund in the city of New Orleans and the La. Uniform Sales Tax Bd. as participating employers in MERS. <u>Proposed law</u> adds any local tax board or commission that has entered into an agreement with MERS pursuant to <u>present law</u> as a participating employer in MERS.

Relative to the Sabine Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission, <u>proposed law</u> is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2018.

For mayors in office on June 15, 2004, who are over the age of 65 and receiving a retirement benefit from any source other than MERS, present law provides that such members may elect not to participate in MERS. Any such member that was already a member of MERS on June 15, 2004, may terminate his membership and apply for an immediate refund of his employee contributions. Provides that a member who elects not to participate or terminate participation in MERS may later receive credit for service years by paying an amount sufficient to offset any additional liability to the system. Provides that notwithstanding present law, any person receiving a retirement benefit from MERS who is again employed in a position that would otherwise make him a mandatory participant shall be subject to present law relative to reemployment of system retirees. Proposed law repeals present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 11:1733(A)(intro. para.) and 1751(E); Adds R.S. 11:1732(14)(a)(xi), (xii), and (xiii))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Change retroactive application <u>from</u> the Morehouse Sales and Use Tax Commission <u>to</u> the Sabine Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission.