

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 342

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

DISTRICTS/CRIME PREVENT: Provides relative to the Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:9097.12(B), (D)(2), (E)(7), (F)(3)(c) and (4), relative to the
3 Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District; to provide
4 relative to the boundaries of the district; to provide relative to the governing board
5 of the district; to provide relative to the levy of a parcel fee; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
8 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
9 Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 33:9097.12(B), (D)(2), (E)(7), (F)(3)(c) and (4) are hereby amended
12 and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §9097.12. Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District

14 * * *

15 B. Boundaries. (1) The boundaries of the district shall be the areas as
16 established in the official subdivision plat filed with the clerk of court of East Baton
17 Rouge Parish for the subdivisions of Bocage, Bocage Estates, Filings 1 through 5 of
18 Jefferson Place, and The Cloisters.

19 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the
20 boundaries of the district shall also include the area comprised of Lots 39, 40, 41,

1 42A, 43, and 44 of Bocage Lakes Subdivision, as established on the official
2 subdivision plat filed with the clerk of court of East Baton Rouge Parish, if the
3 inclusion of the area is approved by a majority of the registered voters residing in the
4 area who vote on a proposition at an election held for this purpose in accordance
5 with the Louisiana Election Code. The district may call an election for this purpose.

6 * * *

7 D. Governance.

8 * * *

9 (2) All members of the board shall be residents ~~of~~ and qualified voters within
10 the district.

11 * * *

12 E. Powers and duties. The district, acting through its board, shall have the
13 following powers and duties:

14 * * *

15 (7) To provide for such services and make such expenditures as the board
16 deems proper for the security or beautification of the district, including maintenance
17 and improvement to common areas.

18 * * *

19 F. Parcel fee. The district, through the board, is hereby authorized to impose
20 and collect a parcel fee within the district subject to and in accordance with the
21 provisions of this Subsection.

22 * * *

23 (3)

24 * * *

25 (c) If approved, the fee and the board's authority to increase it shall expire
26 in ten years, but the fee and board authority may be renewed if approved by a
27 majority of the registered voters of the district voting on the proposition at an
28 election as provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph. Any election to authorize
29 the renewal of the fee shall be held ~~only at the same time as any regularly scheduled~~

1 ~~election in East Baton Rouge Parish~~ for that purpose in accordance with the
2 Louisiana Election Code. If the fee and board authority is renewed, the term of the
3 imposition of the fee shall be as provided in the proposition authorizing such
4 renewal, not to exceed ten years.

5 (4) No fee shall be imposed upon any parcel whose owner qualifies for and
6 receives, prior to January 1, 2020, the special assessment level provided by Article
7 VII, Section 18(G)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

8 * * *

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 342 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Steve Carter

Abstract: Provides relative to the Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Present law creates the Jefferson Place/Bocage Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish as a political subdivision of the state in order to aid in crime prevention and to add to the security of district residents by providing for an increase in the presence of law enforcement personnel in the district. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law provides for the expansion of the district's boundaries to include a specified area, subject to approval of the voters in that area.

Present law provides that the district is governed by a nine-member board of commissioners and requires all members be residents of the district.

Proposed law further requires members be qualified voters residing within the district.

Present law authorizes the district, subject to voter approval, to impose and collect a parcel fee. Authorizes the renewal of the fee after 10 years, at any regularly scheduled election in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Proposed law removes such scheduling requirement and requires that any election be held in accordance with the La. Election Code.

Present constitution provides for an exemption from the parcel fee if the owner qualifies for the special assessment level.

Proposed law limits the exemption to those owners who qualified prior to Jan. 1, 2020.

(Amends R.S. 33:9097.12(B), (D)(2), (E)(7), (F)(3)(c) and (4))