

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 421

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

PORTS/HARBORS/TERMINALS. Provides for additional rights and powers of certain port commissions regarding economic and industrial growth. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 34:3522, relative to certain port commissions; to provide for the rights and  
3 powers of such commissions; to provide for functions relative to economic and  
4 industrial growth; to authorize the acquisition and operation of air cargo airports; and  
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 34:3522 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§3522. Rights and powers for economic and industrial growth**

9 **A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a**  
10 **commission of a port, other than a deep water port, with a population of not less**  
11 **than two hundred fifty thousand and not more than four hundred thousand**  
12 **within its jurisdiction may perform the following functions but shall not be**  
13 **limited to:**

14 **(1) Public relations, advertising, marketing, and providing and**  
15 **disseminating information.**

16 **(2) Government relations, ombudsman, and government liaison.**

17 **(3) Financial and financing assistance.**

1           (4) Tax abatement.

2           (5) Planning and coordination for economic development and resource  
3 utilization, including such functions as industrial and economic research and  
4 industrial programming and solicitation.

5           (6) Industrial training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.

6           (7) Using public and other legal powers to facilitate development.

7           (8) Promoting transfer mechanisms to take ideas from the point of origin  
8 and development to commercially successful utilization by local enterprise.

9           (9) Fostering entrepreneurial activity in the port area.

10          (10) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services  
11 or new uses for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or  
12 marketed in the port area.

13          (11) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for  
14 local or regional products and processes, including international markets,  
15 determining the characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets, and  
16 developing new marketing techniques to exploit those markets.

17          (12) Fostering and supporting economic industrial development and  
18 education in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial  
19 institutions, educational institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations,  
20 state government and political subdivisions of the state, the federal government,  
21 and other organizations or persons concerned with research, development,  
22 education, commercial application, and economic or industrial development in  
23 ways which increase the economic base of the port area.

24          (13) Acquiring and operating air cargo airports within its territorial  
25 jurisdiction together with all property and facilities located therein, and any  
26 land as the commission may deem necessary for the present and future  
27 operations of such air cargo airports.

28          B. For the purposes enumerated in Subsection A of this Section, the  
29 commission may engage in any activities and projects it deems most appropriate

1 **to encourage and assist economic growth and development in the port area.**

2 **C. In furtherance of the rights and powers enumerated in Subsections**  
 3 **A and B of this Section, the commission shall not be subject in any respect to the**  
 4 **authority, control, or supervision of any parish or municipal regulatory body.**

5 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 6 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 7 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 8 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 9 effective on the day following such approval.

---

The original instrument was prepared by Jerry J. Guillot. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Alan Miller.

---

DIGEST

SB 421 Engrossed

2020 Regular Session

Peacock

Proposed law provides that a port commission with a population of not less than 250,000 and not more than 400,000 within its jurisdiction, which is not a deep water port commission, may perform the following functions in addition to present law:

- (1) Public relations, advertising, marketing, and providing and disseminating information.
- (2) Government relations, ombudsman, and government liaison.
- (3) Financial and financing assistance.
- (4) Tax abatement.
- (5) Planning and coordination for economic development and resource utilization, including such functions as industrial and economic research and industrial programming and solicitation.
- (6) Industrial training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.
- (7) Using public and other legal powers to facilitate development.
- (8) Promoting transfer mechanisms to take ideas from the point of origin and development to commercially successful utilization by local enterprise.
- (9) Fostering entrepreneurial activity in the port area.
- (10) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services or new uses for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or marketed in the port area.
- (11) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for local or regional products and processes, including international markets, determining the characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets, and developing new

marketing techniques to exploit those markets.

- (12) Fostering and supporting economic industrial development and education in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial institutions, educational institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations, state government and political subdivisions of the state, the federal government, and other organizations or persons concerned with research, development, education, commercial application, and economic or industrial development in ways which increase the economic base of the port area.
- (13) Acquiring and operating air cargo airports within its territorial jurisdiction together with all property and facilities located therein, and any land as the commission may deem necessary for the present and future operations of such air cargo airports.

Proposed law provides for the purpose of proposed law; such commission may engage in any activities and projects it deems most appropriate to encourage and assist economic growth and development in the port area.

Proposed law requires that the commission not be subject in any respect to the authority, control, or supervision of any parish or municipal regulatory body.

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

(Adds R.S. 34:3522)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation,  
Highways, and Public Works to the original bill

1. Technical.
2. Adds requirement that the commission not be subject in any respect to the authority, control, or supervision of any parish or municipal regulatory body.