

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 261

BY REPRESENTATIVE STAGNI

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CIVIL SERVICE/FIRE & POL: Provides relative to the qualifications of the members of the municipal fire and police civil service board

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(f) and 2536(B)(1)(d), relative to the municipal fire and police
3 civil service board; to provide relative to the members of the board; to provide
4 relative to the qualifications of such members; to require the respective governing
5 body to conduct a background check on any person being considered for
6 appointment to a board; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(f) and 2536(B)(1)(d) are hereby enacted to read as
9 follows:

10 §2476. Municipal fire and police civil service boards

11 * * *

12 B.(1)

13 * * *

14 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governing
15 body of the respective municipality shall conduct a background check on any person
16 who is under consideration for appointment to the board. No person is eligible for
17 appointment or may serve as a member of the board if his background check reveals
18 that either of the following has occurred in the ten years immediately preceding his
19 appointment:

20 (i) He has been convicted of a felony.

Proposed law retains present constitution and present law.

Present law, creates a municipal fire and police civil service board in each parish, municipality, and fire protection district composed of five members appointed by the respective governing body. Requires that at least two members of the board be appointed who shall be first nominated and elected by and from the regular employees of the fire and police departments. Provides further with respect to the qualifications of board members.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires the respective governing body to conduct a background check on any person being considered for appointment to the board. Provides that no person is eligible for appointment or may serve as a member of the board if his background check reveals that he has been convicted of a felony or has committed a civil rights violation in the 10 years immediately preceding his appointment.

(Adds R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(f) and 2536(B)(1)(d))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Remove proposed law that prohibits a person from being appointed to serve on the board if he has been convicted of or terminated from previous employment for certain criminal or civil offenses in the 10 years prior to appointment and instead prohibits a person from being appointed to serve on the board if he has been convicted of a felony in the 10 years prior to appointment.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Prohibit a person who has committed a civil rights violation in the previous 10 years from serving on a board.