

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 392

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

DISTRICTS/COMMUNICATIONS: Provides relative to employees of communications districts

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:9103(D) and 9124(B), relative to communications districts;
3 to provide relative to employees of such districts; to provide that certain employees
4 are first responders; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 33:9103(D) and 9124(B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
7 as follows:

8 §9103. Board of commissioners; membership; qualifications and terms; powers;
9 parish governing authority as district governing authority

10 * * *

11 D.(1) The commission shall have authority to employ such employees,
12 experts, and consultants as it may deem necessary to assist the commission in the
13 discharge of its responsibilities to the extent that funds are made available.

14 (2) Any district employee who is an emergency response operator or
15 emergency services dispatcher who provides communications support services for
16 an agency by responding to requests for assistance in emergencies shall be
17 considered a first responder. A "first responder" means a public employee or
18 volunteer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency.

19 * * *

1 §9124. Creation of district; jurisdiction; governing authority; powers

2 * * *

3 B.(1) The governing authority shall have authority to employ such experts,
4 employees, and consultants as may be deemed necessary to assist the district in the
5 discharge of its responsibilities to the extent that funds are made available.

6 (2) Any district employee who is an emergency response operator or
7 emergency services dispatcher who provides communications support services for
8 an agency by responding to requests for assistance in emergencies shall be
9 considered a first responder. A "first responder" means a public employee or
10 volunteer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency.

11 * * *

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 392 Original

2022 Regular Session

Hughes

Abstract: Provides that certain employees of communications districts are first responders.

Present law authorizes the governing authority of any parish to create communications districts composed of territory lying within the parish. Provides for the establishment of the number 911 as the primary emergency telephone number for use in communications districts and for the identification of all streets, roads, highways, and dwelling places in the districts. Provides that the districts are political subdivisions of the state and are generally governed by a seven-member board of commissioners. Provides that the Jefferson Parish communications district is governed by the parish governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law authorizes the governing board to employ employees, experts, and consultants as it may deem necessary to assist the commission in the discharge of its responsibilities to the extent that funds are made available.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally provides that district employees who are emergency response operators or emergency services dispatchers who provide communications support services for an agency by responding to requests for assistance in emergencies are considered first responders. Defines "first responder" as a public employee or volunteer whose duties include responding rapidly to an emergency.

(Amends R.S. 33:9103(D) and 9124(B))