
DIGEST

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HB 148 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Freeman

Abstract: Creates the Bouligny Improvement District in Orleans Parish. Provides for the district's boundaries, purpose, governance, and funding, including the authority to levy taxes or fees.

Proposed law creates the Bouligny Improvement District in Orleans Parish as a political subdivision of the state for the purpose of promoting and encouraging security in the area included within the district. Provides for district boundaries. Provides that the district shall be governed by a board of commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) The president of the Bouligny Improvement Assoc. (association).
- (2) Two members appointed by the board of directors of the association.
- (3) One member appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans from a list of nominations submitted by the association.
- (4) One member appointed by the member of the La. House of Representatives whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district from a list of nominations submitted by the association.
- (5) One member appointed by the member of the La. Senate whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district from a list of nominations submitted by the association.
- (6) One member appointed by the member of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans whose council district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district from a list of nominations submitted by the association.

Requires board members to be residents and qualified voters of the district.

Proposed law provides for the district's powers and duties including the following:

- (1) To sue and be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To receive and expend funds from authorized taxes or fees in accordance with an adopted

budget.

- (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public for the provision of security patrols in the district.
- (5) To purchase items or supplies which the board deems instrumental in achieving the purpose of the district.
- (6) To acquire, lease, insure, and sell real property within its boundaries in accordance with district plans.

Proposed law requires the board to prepare a plan(s) specifying the public improvements, facilities, and services proposed to be furnished, constructed, or acquired for the district. Further requires that the plan include:

- (1) An estimate of the annual and aggregate cost of acquiring, constructing, or providing the services, improvements, or facilities.
- (2) An estimate of the aggregate number of mills required to be levied in each year on the taxable real property within the district in order to provide the funds required for the implementation or effectuation of the plan for furnishing the services specified and for capital improvements, or both.

Proposed law authorizes the governing authority of the city of New Orleans to levy and collect special taxes or fees within the district not to exceed 20 mills or fees on all taxable real property within the district, subject to voter approval. Provides that the taxes or fees shall be levied for a term not to exceed eight years, but authorizes renewal of the taxes or fees, subject to voter approval. Provides that the amount of the tax or fee shall be as provided by a resolution of the board. Proposed law prohibits the levy of taxes or fees on any parcel whose owner qualifies for the property tax special assessment level as provided by the state constitution (Const. Art. VII, §18(G)(1))

Proposed law requires that the taxes or fees be levied and collected in the same manner and at the same time as all other ad valorem taxes on property subject to taxation by the city. Authorizes the city to retain 1% of the amount collected.

Proposed law provides that any additional security patrols, public or private, provided by the district shall be supplemental to and not in lieu of personnel and services provided in the district by the New Orleans Police Department.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:9091.27)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law that requires the board to adopt a plan prior to the levy of any taxes or fees.
2. Make additional technical changes.