

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 563

BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:154 and 172(A)(1)(a) and (D), relative to the parish of  
3 Ascension; to provide relative to municipal annexations; to require municipal  
4 governing authorities to notify the parish governing authority prior to annexing  
5 property; and to provide for related matters.

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

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 33:154 and 172(A)(1)(a) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted  
11 to read as follows:

12 §154. Notice of election

13 A. ~~Such~~ Any election shall be held under the general election laws, and  
14 preceded by a notice of ten days or more in one or more newspapers published in  
15 such city or town, or if there be none by posting as required in sheriff's and  
16 constable's sales. The notice shall set forth specifically the manner in which such  
17 election is to be conducted, and the boundaries and description of such lots or land  
18 proposed to be annexed to and included in the corporate limits of such city or town.  
19 It shall designate the polling place and the names of the commissioners of election,  
20 as well as the manner of counting the votes and making the returns.

21 B. In addition to the requirements of Subsection A of this Section, in the  
22 parish of Ascension, at least thirty days prior to an election held pursuant to this

1           Section, the municipal governing authority shall provide written notification of the  
 2           upcoming election to the governing authority of the parish.

3   \*       \*       \*

4           §172. Petition to annex territory; valuation of property; notice of filing petition;  
 5   hearing concerning proposed ordinance; alternative methods

6                           A.(1)(a)(i) No ordinance enlarging the boundaries of a municipality shall be  
 7           valid unless, prior to the adoption thereof, a petition has been presented to the  
 8           governing body of a municipality containing the written assent of a majority of the  
 9           registered voters and a majority in number of the resident property owners as well  
 10          as twenty-five percent in value of the property of the resident property owners within  
 11          the area proposed to be included in the corporate limits, all according to the  
 12          certificates of the parish assessor and parish registrar of voters.

13                           (ii) In addition to the requirements of Item (i) of this Subparagraph, in the  
 14          parish of Ascension, at least thirty days prior to the adoption of an ordinance to  
 15          enlarge the boundaries, the municipal governing authority shall provide written  
 16          notification of the proposed annexation to the governing authority of the parish.

17   \*       \*       \*

18                           D.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraphs (1) through (5) of  
 19          Subsection A of this Section, any municipality may annex contiguous areas without  
 20          the petitions required by Subsection A, by ordinance, provided prior to the adoption  
 21          of any such ordinance, the question of the annexation shall be submitted to the  
 22          qualified voters residing within the area proposed to be annexed in a special election  
 23          called for that purpose by the municipality, and a majority of those voting at such  
 24          election shall have voted in favor of the annexation.

25                           (2) Any municipality may also call such an election after being requested to  
 26          do so through a petition signed by at least twenty-five percent of the resident  
 27          property owners residing in the area requesting annexation and by the owners of at  
 28          least twenty-five percent in value of the resident property within such area. The  
 29          valuation of the property shall be determined as set forth in Subsection A of this  
 30          Section. The petition presented to the municipality shall contain an accurate

1 description of the area proposed to be annexed. All elections called under the  
2 provisions of this Subsection shall be conducted in the same manner as are other  
3 special elections called for bond and tax purposes by municipalities.

4 (3) In addition to the requirements of Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this  
5 Subsection, in the parish of Ascension, at least thirty days prior to an election held  
6 pursuant to this Subsection, the municipal governing authority shall provide written  
7 notification of the upcoming election to the governing authority of the parish.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_