
DIGEST

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HB 88 Original

2023 Regular Session

Adams

Abstract: Provides for the appointment, rather than election, of the chief of police of Slaughter

Present law provides that the officers of every municipality governed by the provisions of the Lawrason Act (mayor-board of aldermen form of government) shall be a mayor, aldermen, a chief of police, a tax collector, and a clerk. Generally provides for election, at large, of the police chief. Provides for appointment of a police chief in certain specified municipalities.

Present law alternatively provides that the office of police chief shall be filled by mayoral appointment with approval of the board of aldermen if a majority of the municipal electors approve the change. Provides for an election on the question only upon petition directed to the board of aldermen and signed by at least 25% of such electors. However, in a municipality with a population of 5,000 or fewer, authorizes calling such an election upon adoption of an ordinance by 2/3 vote of the governing authority.

Proposed law provides that the police chief in Slaughter shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the board of aldermen. Provides for initial appointment upon expiration of the current term or other vacancy if there is an elected chief in office on the effective date of proposed law; provides for immediate appointment if there is not an elected chief in office. Provides that the police chief's term is concurrent with that of the mayor and aldermen.

Proposed law provides that the board of aldermen, upon recommendation of the mayor, shall establish the salary of the office and shall, by ordinance, establish the duties, responsibilities, and qualifications of the office. Requires the mayor to supervise and direct the administration of the office and provides that the chief reports directly to the mayor.

(Adds R.S. 33:381(C)(35))