
DIGEST

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HB 249 Original

2024 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Provides for a 15-member compensation commission to evaluate and establish the compensation of each elected official whose salary or other compensation was established by statute prior to Jan. 1, 2024.

Proposed law provides for the Compensation Commission. Requires it to complete a comprehensive examination and evaluation of the salary and other compensation for each elected official whose salary or other compensation was established by statute prior to Jan. 1, 2024, and to establish a new salary and other compensation for each office or class of offices based upon its examination and evaluation no later than Jan. 15, 2035. Provides that it consists of 15 members who serve 10-year terms all appointed from a list of eligible nominees as follows:

- (1) The governor shall appoint three members.
- (2) The supreme court shall appoint one member.
- (3) The Conference of Court of Appeal Judges shall appoint one member.
- (4) The La. District Judges Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (5) The La. District Attorneys Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (6) The La. Sheriffs' Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (7) The La. Clerks of Court Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (8) The La. State Coroner's Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (9) The La. Assessors' Assoc. shall appoint one member.
- (10) The speaker of the House shall appoint one member.
- (11) The member of the House of Representatives who is the chairman of the largest caucus or delegation of members of a political party with which the speaker of the House is not affiliated shall appoint one member.
- (12) The president of the Senate shall appoint one member.

- (13) The member of the Senate who is the chairman of the largest caucus or delegation of members of a political party with which the president of the Senate is not affiliated shall appoint one member.

Proposed law provides that appointments to the commission shall be from a timely submitted list of least five eligible qualified nominees for each position to each appointing authority. Provides members may be removed by the commission for cause and that vacancies are filled in the manner of original appointment.

Proposed law provides that members must be residents and qualified voters of the state and shall not be a lobbyist or an employee of a lobbyist, a public employee, an elected public official, or an appointed public official other than as a member of the commission. Specifies that the commission shall elect one of its members chairman and any other officers it deems necessary. Prohibits commission from receiving compensation for their services, but provides allows reimbursement of actual expenses. Provides that the commission is domiciled in Baton Rouge and shall meet at least quarterly. Provides that any necessary staff shall be provided by the legislative auditor.

Proposed law requires the commission to publish its compensation recommendation for an office no later than Jan. 15th of the last full calendar year of a term of office for that office or class of offices following its evaluation of the salary and other compensation for that office or class of offices. Provides that the change in salary and other compensation shall become effective at the beginning of the subsequent term of office for that office (or for the beginning of the first term of an office in a class of offices with staggered terms) and any conflicting provision of law shall be null and of no effect.

Proposed law provides that the commission shall terminate on Jan. 15, 2035, or when it notifies the legislature that it has completed its duty, whichever is earlier.

Effective if and when the proposed amendment of Article X of the Constitution of La. contained in the Act which originated as House Bill No. ___ of this 2024 R.S. of the Legislature is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Adds R.S. 42:1481-1485)