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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jacob K. Wilson.

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DIGEST

SB 432 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Edmonds

Present law provides for a board of commissioners who may be appointed or elected.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that commissioners may only be appointed.

Present law requires that three commissioners be appointed from nominations made by the industrial users in the district.

Proposed law changes the nominating entities from industrial users to the Louisiana State University Center for Energy Studies, the Greater Baton Rouge Industrial Alliance, the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the Louisiana Chemical Association, the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association, and the Louisiana Oil & Gas Association.

Present law requires that three commissioners be appointed from nominations made by entities that furnish water for rural or municipal use within the district, and that one of the three be nominated by privately owned users furnishing a municipal water supply.

Proposed law retains present law and requires that one of the three nominations be by privately owned users furnishing a municipal water supply to no fewer than 250,000 persons.

Present law provides for powers of the board.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits the board from requiring installation of additional meters or changes thereto when a user maintains such devices on each well in compliance with metering and monthly reporting requirements. Further requires that user-installed meters meet accepted scientific practices, be capable of a maximum deviation of no less than 10% of actual flows, and measure and report data per well, per stratum, on a monthly basis.

Proposed law requires that meters be installed, calibrated, validated, and maintained by a qualified source with formal training or practical experience. Further provides that the board may audit each meter once yearly and may install temporary meters at its own cost to verify performance.

Present law authorizes the board to expand the district to include adjacent parishes, with added parishes to have equal board representation and conditions as the original parishes.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 38:3073(3) and R.S. 38:3074(A)(2) and (3); adds R.S. 38:3076(F); repeals R.S. 38:3076(A)(22))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Environmental Quality to the original bill

1. Removes the minimum utility size requirement for board members nominated by privately or publicly owned water utilities.
2. Removes the word "substantial" from compliance requirements.
3. Changes the flow data reporting interval from quarterly to monthly.
4. Requires user-installed meters to meet accepted scientific practices, maintain a maximum deviation of less than ten percent of actual flow, and measure data hourly for each well in each stratum. Further requires the user to report data from each meter monthly.
5. Requires that meters be installed, calibrated, validated, and maintained to ensure accuracy, and that calibration be performed by a qualified source with formal training or experience.
6. Provides board authority to perform once yearly audits of each meter, which may include temporary installation of board-provided meters to verify performance.