

SENATE BILL NO. 142

BY SENATOR MYERS

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2491(D)(2)(a) and (H)(2), the introductory paragraph of 2494(C)(2) and 2498(C) and to enact R.S. 33:2494.1, relative to the city of Lafayette; to provide relative to the classified police service; to provide relative to certain positions in the classified service; to provide relative to qualifications, selection, and appointment of eligible employees; to provide relative to departmental and promotional seniority and promotion; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:2491(D)(2)(a) and (H)(2), the introductory paragraph of 2494(C)(2) and 2498(C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 33:2494.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2491. Establishment and maintenance of employment lists

Except for the positions of entrance firefighter, entrance police officer, entrance jailer, secretary to the chief, departmental records clerk, and for the entrance classes for which the operation and maintenance of radio, alarm, or signal systems for the respective fire or police service is the primary duty, the board shall establish and maintain employment lists containing names of persons eligible for appointment to the various classes of positions in the classified service, as follows:

* * *

D.(1)

* * *

(2)(a) Names of persons attaining a passing score on the promotional test in

1 the Lafayette Police Department for the rank of lieutenant or ~~above~~ **captain**, or in the
 2 Lake Charles Police Department, shall be placed upon the promotion employment
 3 list for the class for which they were tested, from highest to lowest, according to their
 4 total promotional seniority in the next lower class. If two or more persons possess
 5 an equal amount of promotional seniority, the names of those persons shall be placed
 6 on the promotional list in the order of departmental seniority, from highest to lowest.

7 * * *

8 H.(1)

9 * * *

10 (2) When new names are to be placed upon a promotion list for a given class
 11 in the Lafayette Police Department for the rank of lieutenant or ~~above~~ **captain**, and
 12 in the Lake Charles Police Department, the remaining names thereon shall be
 13 rearranged with the new names so that all names appearing upon the list for the class
 14 shall rank, from highest to lowest, according to total promotional seniority in the
 15 next lower class from which the promotion list is established. If two or more persons
 16 possess an equal amount of promotional seniority, the names of those persons shall
 17 be placed on the promotional list in the order of departmental seniority, from highest
 18 to lowest.

19 * * *

20 §2494. Certification and appointment

21 * * *

22 C.(1)

23 * * *

24 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the municipal
 25 fire and police civil service system for the cities of Lafayette for the rank of
 26 lieutenant or ~~above~~ **captain** and Lake Charles shall fill a vacant position in the police
 27 department in the following manner:

28 * * *

29 **§2494.1. Lafayette Police Department; rank of major**

30 **A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in the city**

1 of Lafayette, a vacant position in the police department at the rank of major
2 shall be filled in the following manner:

3 (1) Any employee who holds the rank of sergeant or above shall be
4 eligible to take the competitive examination for the rank of major.

5 (2) All employees who achieve a passing score on the competitive
6 examination shall be eligible for selection and appointment to the position of
7 major and shall be placed on an eligibility list presented to the chief of police.

8 (3) The chief of police shall select and appoint an employee from the
9 eligibility list to fill the vacant position of major.

10 (4) Eligibility for admission to the competitive examination for the
11 position of major shall be limited to members of the Lafayette Police
12 Department.

13 B.(1) The appointment to the position of major shall be for a term of one
14 year, and the employee holding this position shall be subject to annual review
15 by the chief of police.

16 (2) After each annual review by the chief of police, the chief may
17 reconfirm the employee for another one-year period or may, at his discretion,
18 demote the employee to his former class of position. The chief of police may
19 reconfirm the employee holding the position of major without the need for the
20 employee to retest.

21 (3) If an employee is demoted from the position of major pursuant to this
22 Subsection, he shall not forfeit any departmental or promotional seniority in his
23 classified rank and the demotion shall not constitute corrective or disciplinary
24 action. The employee shall not have a right to appeal the action authorized by
25 this Subsection.

26 C. Any employee who holds the position of major may, while holding this
27 position, apply for admission to the promotional examination for the class next
28 higher than that from which he was appointed as major. However, the name
29 and score of any employee serving as major shall not be certified to the
30 appointing authority by the civil service board as eligible for appointment to a

1 position of the promotional class. His name and score shall be eligible for
2 certification, in accordance with the maximum period for which a name may
3 remain on the eligibility list, only upon demotion to the position from which he
4 was appointed as major.

5 D. Any employee who is appointed from a position in the classified police
6 service to serve as major shall not forfeit his departmental or promotional
7 seniority accumulated to the date of his appointment. He shall continue to
8 accumulate departmental and promotional seniority in accordance with the
9 provisions of this Part during the time he holds the position of major.

10 E. If a vacancy cannot be filled by reinstatement or by reemployment as
11 provided in this Part, the board shall certify the names of the eligible persons
12 on the promotional list in the order in which they appear for the class in which
13 the vacancy is to be filled.

14 F. If the provisions of this Section conflict with any local ordinance,
15 policy, or restriction regarding the eligibility and appointment process for the
16 rank of major, the provisions of this Section shall govern.

17 G.(1) The provisions of this Section shall apply only to an employee
18 occupying a position at the rank of major or promoted to a position at the rank
19 of major in the Lafayette Police Department when either:

20 (a) The employee occupying the position on July 1, 2025, has not
21 completed the working test period or otherwise has probational status to a
22 position at the rank of major.

23 (b) The appointment is to fill a vacant position at the rank of major that
24 exists on and after July 1, 2025.

25 (2) The provisions of this Section shall not apply to an employee with
26 permanent status to a position at the rank of major in the Lafayette Police
27 Department on July 1, 2025.

28 * * *

29 §2498. Abolition of positions in the classified service

30 * * *

1 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this Section, in the
2 Lafayette Police Department for the rank of lieutenant or ~~above~~ captain, and in the
3 Lake Charles Police Department, whenever an entire class is abolished in the
4 classified service, the regular employees of the class shall be demoted to lower
5 classes and priority to positions shall be governed by total promotional seniority
6 earned in the class in the order of highest to lowest. If two or more persons possess
7 an equal amount of promotional seniority, the names of such persons shall be placed
8 on the reinstatement list in the order of departmental seniority, from highest to
9 lowest.

* * *

11 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025; if vetoed by the governor
12 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day
13 following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2025, whichever is later.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____