

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 477

BY SENATOR PRICE

STATE EMPLOYEE RET. Provides relative to the retirement eligibility of the chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board. (2/3-CA10s29.1(A)(3))(gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:164(A)(3) and R.S. 27:14(B)(2) and to enact R.S. 11:411(16), relative to part-time public officials; to provide for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide membership eligibility; to provide for the chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board; to provide for full-time employment; to provide for compensation and benefits; 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. 11:164(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:411(16) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§164. Part-time public officials

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this Section, the following elected or appointed officials are hereby deemed to be part-time public servants who, based on such part-time service, shall not participate in, or receive credit for service in, any public retirement system, fund, or plan sponsored by the state of Louisiana or any instrumentality or political subdivision thereof:

\* \* \*

(3) Any member of a board or commission established by the state of Louisiana or any instrumentality or political subdivision thereof **unless authorized by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house.**

\* \* \*

§411. Eligibility for membership

The membership of this system shall be as follows:

\* \* \*

**(16) The chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board, appointed and employed in such position on or after July 1, 2024.**

Section 2. R.S. 27:14(B)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§14. Compensation

\* \* \*

B.(1)

\* \* \*

(2) The chairman of the board shall devote full time to his duties as chairman and shall not engage in any other business or profession. During such service, the chairman shall **be considered a full-time employee of the state. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the chairman shall be eligible for membership in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and shall not earn compensation of any kind other than his salary paid as a board member. The chairman shall receive an annual salary equal in amount to that of a judge of the courts of appeal of this state, which amount shall include expenses, benefits, emoluments, and any supplemental pay to which such judges are entitled as provided in R.S. 13:311.**

\* \* \*

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

1 effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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	DIGEST	
SB 477 Original	2026 Regular Session	Price

Present law designates certain elected or appointed officials as part-time public servants who are not eligible to participate in any public retirement system, fund, or plan sponsored by the state of La. or any instrumentality or political subdivision.

Proposed law creates an exception allowing certain members of a board or commission to become eligible to participate in a public retirement system, fund, or plan subject to a two-thirds vote of each house.

Proposed law provides for the membership of the chairman of the La. Gaming Control Board into the La. State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS), if appointed and employed on or after July 1, 2024.

Present law provides that the governor shall fix the salary of the members of the La. Gaming Control Board, not to exceed \$15,000 per year, and that a member is entitled to a per diem.

Present law restricts the chairman of the La. Gaming Control Board from engaging in any other business or profession or earning compensation other than his salary. The chairman salary shall be that of a court of appeal judge. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that the chairman be considered a full-time employee, eligible for LASERS membership.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends 11:164(A)(3) and R.S. 27:14(B)(2); adds R.S. 11:411(16))