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 DIGEST

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Nevers

SB No. 674

Proposed law provides for a moratorium on municipal incorporations from Jan. 1, 2014, through Dec. 31, 2015. Further provides that during this moratorium, no residents of any unincorporated area may petition for the incorporation of the area as provided in present law.

Proposed law provides that, if prior to Jan. 1, 2014, the residents of an unincorporated area initiated a petition for incorporation under present law and no election for the incorporation was held on or before Nov. 4, 2014, then the petition for incorporation shall be suspended during the moratorium and may be continued on Jan. 1, 2016. Further provides that any petition suspended as a result of the moratorium in proposed law shall be subject to the provisions governing municipal incorporation in effect when the moratorium ends.

Proposed law provides that, if prior to Jan. 1, 2014, the residents of an unincorporated area initiated a petition for incorporation under present law and despite complying with all other requirements and deadlines, an election on the petition is not held on or before Nov. 4, 2014, due to a court order or court action, the petition for incorporation shall not be suspended during the moratorium and may be continued. However, no signatures shall be collected for the petition after July 23, 2014.

Proposed law provides that certain standing committees shall function as a joint committee to complete a comprehensive review and evaluation of the certain state policies and submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than Dec. 1, 2014, so that any proposed legislation associated with the issue may be considered in the 2015 R.S. of the Legislature.

Proposed law provides that the joint committee shall consider testimony and information from national and state organizations, including but not limited to the La. Municipal Assoc., the Police Jury Assoc. of La., the La. Assessors' Assoc., the La. Sheriffs' Assoc., the La. Fire Chiefs Assoc., the La. School Boards Assoc., the La. Assoc. of Tax Administrators, the National Assoc. of Counties, the United States Conference of Mayors, and the National League of Cities.

Proposed law exempts the following parishes from the provisions of proposed law: Bossier, Caddo, East and West Carroll, Claiborne, Concordia, East Feliciana, Jefferson, Lincoln, Livingston, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, and Union.

Provides that proposed law shall be retroactive in application.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:7.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to the original bill

1. Changes the election for the incorporation to be held from on or before Jan. 1, 2014, to on or before Nov. 4, 2014.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical changes.

2. Adds a provision that prevents suspension of certain petitions during the moratorium. Further provides that signatures cannot be collected after July 23, 2014.
3. Adds a provision that excludes certain parishes from proposed law.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the reengrossed bill.

1. Adds East Feliciana, Jefferson, and Livingston to list of parishes exempted from proposed law.