

Existing law creates the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority to provide for the utilization of appropriate private and public resources to eliminate and prevent the development or spread of slum, blighted, and distressed areas in north Lafayette. Provides that the authority is a special district and political subdivision of the state.

Prior law provided that the authority was comprised of Councilmanic Districts 3 and 4 of the city of Lafayette as geographically drawn on July 14, 2008.

New law instead provides that the authority is comprised of La. House of Rep. District No. 44 and Lafayette City-Parish Council Districts 3 and 4 as geographically drawn on August 1, 2014. Existing law excludes certain property from the district's boundaries.

Prior law provided that the authority was governed by a board of nine commissioners composed as follows:

- (1) Three commissioners appointed by the state senator representing Senate District 24.
- (2) Two commissioners appointed by the La. state representative representing House District 44.
- (3) One commissioner appointed by the councilperson representing Council District 3 of the Lafayette City-Parish Council.
- (4) One commissioner appointed by the councilperson representing Council District 4 of the Lafayette City-Parish Council.
- (5) One commissioner appointed by the mayor-president of Lafayette.
- (6) The director of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority.

New law reduces the membership of the board from nine to seven. Removes one appointment granted to the state senator for Senate District No. 24 and one appointment granted to the state representative for House District 44. Grants an appointment to the state representative for House District 96. Removes the director of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority.

Existing law requires board members to reside or be employed within the authority's boundaries. Prior law required that seven board members be qualified electors of the city of Lafayette. Further required that each board member be a citizen of the U.S., a domiciliary of and a qualified voter of the city of Lafayette for at least one year preceding the date of appointment, and to remain a domiciliary of and a qualified voter of the city during the entirety of the term of office. Required each board member to be of good character and to possess some skill, knowledge, or experience that would prove useful in the accomplishment of the goals of the authority. New law removes prior law and instead requires all board members to be qualified electors of Lafayette Parish.

Existing law requires board members to serve five-year staggered terms without compensation but authorizes reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the authority.

Prior law required the elected officials granted appointments to the board to meet within 30 days of July 1, 2008, to make board appointments. New law instead requires the appointing authorities to meet within 60 days after August 1, 2014, to make board appointments.

Prior law required that the seven commissioners appointed by elected officials represent the following organizations and industries: Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Greater Southwest La. Black Chamber of Commerce, a citizen's neighborhood association, the accounting industry, the banking industry, and the real estate industry. New law removes prior law.

Existing law requires vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Prior law authorized a majority of the remaining board members to appoint an interim

member until a new member was confirmed. New law specifies that remaining members of the board may appoint an interim member if the appointing authority fails to appoint within 30 days.

Existing law requires that a certificate of the appointment or reappointment of any member be filed with the clerk of the Lafayette-City Parish Council. Provides that the certificate shall be conclusive evidence of a proper appointment.

Prior law required the board to establish rules and regulations relative to the attendance and participation of members in its meetings. Authorized the board, upon approval of a majority of its members, to provide for disqualification and automatic removal of board members should they fail to comply with the board's rules and regulations. New law removes prior law and authorizes the board to adopt bylaws or other rules and regulations as it deems necessary for conducting its business affairs. Provides that a board member may be removed for cause by the appointing authority. Existing law prohibits a removed board member from being reappointed unless reappointment is confirmed unanimously by the board.

Prior law granted the board the power to organize and reorganize the executive, administrative, clerical, and other departments and forces of the authority and to fix the duties, powers, and compensation of all employees, agents, and consultants of the authority. New law instead grants the board power to appoint and retain all employees it deems advisable and to fix the powers, duties, and compensation of the employees.

Prior law required the board to meet in regular session once each month and to meet in special session as convened by the chairman or upon written notice signed by three members. New law requires the board to hold regular meetings and authorizes the board to hold special meetings as provided in the board's bylaws.

Prior law provided that a majority of the members of the board, not including vacancies, constituted a quorum for the conduct of business. New law removes the reference to vacancies.

New law provides that the terms of all members of the board serving on Aug. 1, 2014, terminate on that date and requires that new board members be appointed in accordance with new law.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 33:4720.171(F)(1) and (G))