

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 785****2016 Regular Session****Leopold**

DISTRICTS/NEIGHBORHOOD: Provides for the creation of neighborhood improvement and beautification districts in certain parishes

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Change the maximum population of a parish to which proposed law is applicable from 435,000 to 445,000.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law authorizes the governing authority of any parish with a population of not less than 275,000 persons and not more than 445,000 persons to create, by ordinance, a neighborhood improvement and beautification district within any neighborhood located within the parish to promote and encourage the improvement, beautification, and overall betterment of the neighborhood and aid its residents by maintaining property values, increasing the tax base, fostering economic growth, and providing for recreational activities. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law requires the parish governing authority to provide, in the ordinance creating the district, for its name, boundaries, governance, and powers and duties, including the authority to impose taxes or fees within the district, subject to voter approval. Provides that the parish governing authority may grant to the district the power to perform any function appropriate for achieving the purpose of the district, including acquiring property located within the district. However, prohibits the district from acquiring property by expropriation and using district funds for security enhancements.

(Adds R.S. 33:9099.3)