

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 68

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY BROWN

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides for the membership of the LaSalle Economic Development District board of commissioners

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:130.202, relative to the LaSalle Economic Development  
3 District; to provide relative to the board of commissioners; to provide relative to the  
4 appointment of board members; to provide relative to residency requirements for  
5 board members; to provide relative to meetings of the board; and to provide for  
6 related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
8 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
9 Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 33:130.202 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

12 §130.202. Board of commissioners; members, officers; agents and employees

13 A. The district shall be governed by a board of commissioners consisting of  
14 members appointed as follows:

15 (1) The town council of each of the following municipalities shall ~~make its~~  
16 ~~appointments in a public meeting from applications submitted by residents of the~~  
17 ~~municipality for which the member is appointed~~ appoint one member:

18 (a) ~~One member appointed by the town council of Jena;~~

19 (b) ~~One member appointed by the town council of Olla;~~

20 (c) ~~One member appointed by the town council of Tullos;~~

1 (d) ~~One member appointed by the town council of Urania.~~

2 (2) Each state and federally chartered financial institution with offices in  
3 LaSalle Parish shall appoint one member ~~who is a resident of LaSalle Parish.~~

4 (3) The LaSalle Parish School Board shall appoint one member ~~who is a~~  
5 ~~resident of LaSalle Parish.~~

6 (4) The LaSalle Police Jury shall appoint one member ~~who is a resident of~~  
7 ~~LaSalle Parish.~~

8 (5) The ~~LaSalle Development Board~~ Jena Band of Choctaw Indians shall  
9 appoint ~~three~~ one ~~members~~ member ~~who are residents of LaSalle Parish.~~

10 (6) The ~~LaSalle Parish Chamber of Commerce~~ board of commissioners of  
11 this district shall appoint ~~three~~ four ~~members who are residents of LaSalle Parish.~~

12 (7) ~~The term of office for all members shall be four years.~~

13 (8) The mayor of each incorporated municipality in LaSalle Parish shall be  
14 a ~~nonvoting ex officio~~ member of the board of commissioners.

15 B. The term of office for all appointed members shall be four years. Any  
16 vacancy in the membership of the board of commissioners, occurring either by  
17 reason of the expiration of the term for which appointed or by reason of death,  
18 resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.  
19 ~~In the event that~~ If the entity responsible for the appointment of a member fails to fill  
20 within thirty days a vacancy, the board of commissioners ~~shall~~ may appoint an  
21 interim successor to serve ~~until the position is filled by the appointing entity~~ for the  
22 remainder of the unexpired term.

23 C. Any member of the board of commissioners may be removed by the  
24 entity that originally appointed him for cause.

25 D. The members of the board of commissioners shall serve without  
26 compensation. The board of commissioners shall have the power to organize and  
27 reorganize executive, clerical, and other departments and to fix the duties and powers  
28 and compensation of all officers, agents, and employees of the district. The board

1 of commissioners may reimburse any member for expenses actually incurred in the  
2 performance of his duties hereunder.

3 ~~E. Members of the board, individually, and members of their immediate~~  
4 ~~families are prohibited from bidding on or entering into any contract, subcontract,~~  
5 ~~or other transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the district.~~

6 F.E. The board of commissioners shall elect from among its own members  
7 a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer, whose duties shall be those  
8 usual to such offices. At the option of the board of commissioners, the offices of  
9 secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

10 G.F. The board of commissioners shall meet in regular session once each  
11 month and shall also meet in special session as often as the president of the board  
12 convenes them or on the written request of eight members. Eight members of the  
13 board of commissioners ~~shall~~ constitute a quorum.

14 H.G. The board of commissioners shall prescribe rules to govern its  
15 meetings, ~~is authorized to~~ may draft and implement bylaws to control and implement  
16 the activities of the board, shall maintain suitable offices in the parish of LaSalle, and  
17 may contract with and employ attorneys, clerks, engineers, deputy commissioners,  
18 superintendents, and other agents and employees and shall fix their compensation  
19 and terms of employment.

20 H. All members of the board of commissioners shall be residents of LaSalle  
21 Parish, operate a business in LaSalle Parish, or be employed in LaSalle Parish. A  
22 member of the board of commissioners of the Olla, Urania, Tullos, Standard  
23 Economic and Industrial Development District is not prohibited from serving on the  
24 board of commissioners.

25 Section 2. A member of the board of commissioners of the LaSalle Economic  
26 Development District serving on the effective date of this Act may serve for the remainder  
27 of his unexpired term notwithstanding the provisions of this Act. A vacancy that occurs after  
28 the effective date of this Act in a position previously filled by appointment pursuant to R.S.

- 1 33:130.202(A)(5) or (6) shall be filled pursuant to R.S. 33:130:202(A)(5) or (6) respectively,  
2 as amended by this Act.

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB 68 Original

2018 Regular Session

Terry Brown

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the board of commissioners of the LaSalle Economic Development District.

Present law provides for the creation of the LaSalle Economic Development District as a political subdivision of the state for the purpose of promoting and encouraging industrial development to stimulate the economy through commerce, industry, and research and for the utilization and development of natural and human resources of the area by providing job opportunities. Present law further provides that the district shall be governed by a board of commissioners. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the board of commissioners includes the following members:

- (1) One member appointed by the town council of Jena.
- (2) One member appointed by the town council of Olla.
- (3) One member appointed by the town council of Tullos.
- (4) One member appointed by the town council of Urania.
- (5) One member appointed by each state and federally chartered financial institution with offices in LaSalle Parish.
- (6) One member appointed by the LaSalle Parish School Board.
- (7) One member appointed by the LaSalle Police Jury.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the mayor of each incorporated municipality in LaSalle Parish is a nonvoting member. Proposed law provides that such mayors are voting members.

Present law provides that the LaSalle Development Board and the LaSalle Parish Chamber of Commerce each appoint three members. Proposed law repeals present law

Proposed law provides that the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians appoints one member and the members of the board of commissioners appoint four additional members.

Present law requires that the town councils of Jena, Olla, Tullos, and Urania make their appointments in a public meeting from applications submitted by residents of the respective municipality. Proposed law deletes this requirement.

Present law requires that most members of the board reside in LaSalle Parish. Proposed law requires instead that all board members be residents of LaSalle Parish, operate a business in LaSalle Parish, or be employed in LaSalle Parish. Further provides that a member of the

board of commissioners of the Olla, Urania, Tullos, Standard Economic and Industrial Development District is not prohibited from serving on the board.

Present law requires that any vacancy in the membership of the board be filled in the manner of the original appointment. If the entity responsible for the appointment fails to fill a vacancy within 30 days, present law requires the board to appoint an interim successor to serve until the position is filled by the appointing entity. Proposed law provides instead that if a vacancy is not filled within 30 days, the board may appoint an interim successor to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Present law prohibits members of the board and family members from bidding on or entering into any contract, subcontract, or other transaction that is under the jurisdiction of the district. Proposed law deletes this prohibition.

Present law (the Code of Governmental Ethics), which prohibits such contractual arrangement, remains applicable to the board.

Authorizes board members serving on the effective date of proposed law to serve for the remainder of their unexpired terms notwithstanding the provisions of proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 33:130.202)