

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 629

BY REPRESENTATIVE JONES

MUNICIPALITIES: Provides for the creation of a municipal consortium

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 49 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, to be comprised of R.S.  
3 33:9711, relative to municipalities; to create a municipal consortium comprised of  
4 municipalities with smaller populations; to provide relative to the purpose,  
5 governance, and powers and duties of the consortium; and to provide for related  
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Chapter 49 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
9 comprised of R.S. 33:9711, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 CHAPTER 49. MUNICIPAL CONSORTIUM

11 §9711. Municipal consortium

12 A. Findings and purpose. (1) The legislature finds that the citizens of the  
13 state can benefit from smaller municipalities cooperating with one another to  
14 highlight and leverage the creative assets of the municipalities to attract and retain  
15 residents and businesses and to bring visitors to experience the unique nature of their  
16 areas.

17 (2) The legislature recognizes that many smaller municipalities confront  
18 structural changes and residential uprooting and that there is a need for revitalization  
19 through creative initiatives that animate places and spark economic development.

20 This goal can be better achieved by allowing smaller municipalities to participate in

1 a consortium so that they may use their collective resources to promote their local  
2 assets which will help them to achieve gains in jobs, income, diversity, and livability.

3 B. Creation. There is hereby created a municipal consortium, referred to in  
4 this Subpart as the "consortium", comprised of municipalities with a population of  
5 not more than thirty-five thousand persons according to the latest federal decennial  
6 census, for the purpose of fostering cooperation between the municipalities in order  
7 to showcase the unique assets of their localities and to spark economic development.

8 C. Governance. The consortium shall be governed by a board of directors,  
9 referred to in this Subpart as the "board". The membership of the board shall be as  
10 provided by ordinance adopted by the governing authorities of the respective  
11 municipalities; provided however, the board shall include at least one member of a  
12 federally recognized tribe, one member of a state recognized tribe, one member of  
13 the Louisiana House of Representatives, and one member of the Louisiana Senate.  
14 The board shall adopt bylaws to govern its meetings and activities.

15 D. Powers and duties. The consortium, acting through its board, shall have  
16 the following powers and duties:

17 (1) To sue and be sued.

18 (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.

19 (3) To receive and expend funds collected pursuant to Subsection E of this  
20 Section.

21 (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public.

22 (5) To incur debts and borrow money, but no debt so incurred shall be  
23 payable from any source other than the revenues to be derived by the consortium.

24 (6) To pledge all or any part of its revenues.

25 (7) To perform or have performed any other function or activity necessary  
26 or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the consortium.

27 E. Funding. The consortium may solicit and accept voluntary contributions  
28 and grants to further the purposes of the consortium.

1           F. Cooperation with federal and state agencies. The consortium, acting  
2           through its board, may cooperate with the government of the United States and may  
3           contribute financially to the expense of projects and initiatives as are or may be  
4           authorized or adopted by the United States. The consortium may also cooperate with  
5           all agencies, departments, and political subdivisions of the state of Louisiana in all  
6           undertakings, the purpose of which shall be the furtherance of the objects and  
7           purposes for which the consortium is created.

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## 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)]

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HB 629 Original

2018 Regular Session

Jones

**Abstract:** Creates a municipal consortium comprised of municipalities with a population of not more than 35,000 persons.

Proposed law creates a municipal consortium consisting of municipalities with a population of not more than 35,000 persons, for the purpose of fostering cooperation between the municipalities in order to showcase the unique assets of their localities and to spark economic development.

Proposed law provides that the consortium will be governed by a board of directors whose membership will be determined by ordinance adopted by the respective municipalities. Requires that the board include at least one member of a federally recognized tribe, one member of a state recognized tribe, one member of the La. House of Representatives, and one member of the La. Senate.

Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the consortium including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) To sue and be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To receive and expend funds collected pursuant to proposed law.
- (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public.

Proposed law authorizes the consortium to solicit and accept voluntary contributions and grants to further its purposes.

(Adds R.S. 33:9711)