
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michael Bell.

	DIGEST	
SB 408 Reengrossed	2018 Regular Session	Appel

Present law provides for the city of New Orleans to continue the operation of a public belt railroad by and through a commission known as the Public Belt Railroad Commission for the city of New Orleans.

Present law provides for nine members to serve on the commission who are appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans, and all shall be confirmed by the governing authority of the city of New Orleans.

Present law authorizes the commission to contract with other firms or corporations either public or private, or local governmental subdivisions or political subdivisions, or state agencies, for the operation, management and development of the public belt railroad system if in the best interest of the city of New Orleans and the Port of New Orleans.

Present law authorizes the transfer of the public belt railroad system upon the recommendation of the commission and the determination by the council of the city of New Orleans that the interests of the state of Louisiana, the city of New Orleans and the Port of New Orleans would best be served if owned and/or operated by another firm or corporation.

Present law provides for the city of New Orleans, by and through the Public Belt Railroad Commission to continue to own, maintain, and operate the Huey P. Long Bridge in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

Present law authorizes the city of New Orleans to issue, upon recommendation of the public belt railroad commission, bonds known as New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Bonds, in a sum not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 to be used for the development, extensions, additions, betterments, and construction of the public belt railroad system.

Proposed law creates the New Orleans Port Gateway Railroad Board (railroad board).

Proposed law provides for the railroad board to be composed of a Board of Commissioners who shall be the individuals comprising the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans. Proposed law further prohibits a director, attorney, officer, or employee of any other rail carrier to ever be a member of the board of the railroad board.

Proposed law provides that the primary and specific purpose of the railroad board is to promote economic growth and development in trade and commerce within the areas served by the Port of New Orleans through operation of a neutral switching and terminal railroad.

Proposed law authorizes the transfer of assets by the city of New Orleans through the Public Belt Railroad Commission, with the approval of the council of the city of New Orleans, which includes the Huey P. Long Bridge in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

Proposed law provides for the railroad board to be the successor in every way to the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Corporation.

Proposed law repeals the provisions in present law which authorizes the city of New Orleans to issue, upon recommendation of the Public Belt Railroad Commission, bonds known as New Orleans Public Belt Railroad Bonds, in a sum not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 to be used for the development, extensions, additions, betterments, and construction of the public belt railroad system.

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

(Amends R.S. 33:4530 - 4532; adds R.S. 33:4534 - 4537; repeals R.S. 33:4533)