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## DIGEST

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HB 816 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Jones

**Abstract:** Changes the title designation of officers on the Port of South Louisiana Commission. Provides an option for exemption to the Public Records Law for records pertaining to an active negotiation, if confidentiality is requested by a person negotiating with the port and subsequently approved by the executive director of the Port of South La. Commission.

Present law requires the Port of South La. commissioners elect from among its own members a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

Proposed law changes the title of president to chairman and also changes the title of vice president to vice chairman.

Proposed law defines "active negotiation" or "negotiation that remains active" as a negotiation which has commenced when the Port of South La. provides a response to a request for information or other similar document from a person who is requesting assistance in the retention, expansion, or location of a business in the port district and which is not concluded.

Proposed law provides an exception to R.S. 44:31, 32, and 33, for records pertaining to an active negotiation if requested by a person negotiating with the port and subsequently approved by the executive director of the port's commission, with the executive director including his reasoning for the determination. Further provides that upon conclusion of the negotiation the exemption will no longer apply.

Proposed law specifies that a negotiation is not considered an "active negotiation" or "negotiation that remains active" when either of the following occurs: the Port of South La. decides to no longer actively pursue the retention, expansion, or location of such business in the port district; the person with whom the port was negotiating decides not to pursue the retention, expansion, or location of such business in the port district; or a proposal affecting the negotiation is submitted to the Port of South La. Commission for consideration by the commission in a public meeting.

(Amends R.S. 34:2472(A); Adds R.S. 34:2476.1(C))