

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 403****2018 Regular Session****Steve Carter**

WATER/RESOURCES: Provides relative to membership on the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District board of commissioners

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Adds requirement that certain board members be a professional geologist licensed by the La. Board of Professional Geoscientists, a registered professional engineer with experience in groundwater resource management, or a person with experience in groundwater resource management.
2. Removes reference to the "City of Baton Rouge" when referring to the mayor/president.
3. Provides for two nominations by the mayor/president to be made for gubernatorial appointment.
4. Changes the appointment by the sitting members of the board to nominations to the governor submitted by a majority vote of the board.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law creates the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District and the board of commissioners. The board consists of 16 members appointed by the governor as follows:

- (1) One member appointed from each parish in the district.
- (2) Three members appointed from the industrial users in the district.
- (3) Three members appointed from privately or publicly owned entities that furnish water for rural or municipal use within the district.
- (4) One member who is the director of the Dept. of Public Works, or his designee.
- (5) One member who is the commissioner of conservation, or his designee, who shall be a member of his staff.
- (6) One member appointed from nominations by the La. Farm Bureau Federation and the La. Cattlemen's Association.
- (7) One member who is the secretary of the Dept. of Environmental Quality, or his designee, who shall be a member of his staff.
- (8) One member appointed from the nomination by the members of the board.

Proposed law provides for 17 members appointed by the governor. Changes the director of the Dept. of Public Works appointment to be a person nominated by the mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish, who is a registered professional engineer from the staff of the Dept. of Environmental Services, the Dept. of Transportation and Drainage, or the Dept. of Development, within the Dept. of Public Works.

Proposed law requires the commissioner of conservation's designee to be a professional geologist licensed by the La. Board of Professional Geoscientists, a registered professional engineer with experience in groundwater resource management, or a person with experience

in groundwater resource management.

Proposed law requires the secretary of DEQ's designee to be a professional geologist licensed by the La. Board of Professional Geoscientists, a registered professional engineer with experience in groundwater resource management, or a person with experience in groundwater resource management.

Proposed law adds a member nominated by the mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish who must be a professional geologist licensed by the La. Board of Professional Geoscientists, a registered professional engineer with experience in groundwater resource management, or a person with experience in groundwater resource management.

Proposed law changes the appointment from the nomination by the members of the board to an appointment by the governor from nominations submitted by a majority vote of the members of the board. Further requires that the appointee be a professional geologist licensed by the La. Board of Professional Geoscientists, a registered professional engineer with experience in groundwater resource management, or a person with experience in groundwater resource management.

Present law provides for three-year terms for the commission members. Proposed law retains the three-year terms but removes antiquated provisions that established the initial staggered terms of the commission members.

Proposed law provides that any member of the commission serving on the effective date of the Act who does not qualify for appointment to their position under the provisions of this Act shall immediately resign and be replaced by a qualified person.

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

(Amends R.S. 38:3074(A)(intro. para.), (4), (5), (7) and (8) and (B); Adds R.S. 38:3074(A)(9))