

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 625 (HB 403)

2018 Regular Session

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Existing law creates the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District and the board of commissioners. Under prior law the board consisted 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 (DEQ), or his designee, who shall be a member of his staff.
- (8) One member appointed from the nomination by the other members of the board.

New law provides for 17 members appointed by the governor.

New law changes the director of the Dept. of Public Works appointment to be 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 East Baton Rouge Parish Dept. of Public Works appointed by the governor from nominations by the mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish.

New law requires the commissioner of conservation's designee to be from the office of conservation and a professional geologist who is 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.

New law requires the secretary of DEQ's designee to be from DEQ and a professional geologist who is 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.

New law adds a member appointed by the governor from nominations 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.

New law changes the member appointed 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.

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

New law provides that any member of the commission serving on the effective date of this 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 May 30, 2018.

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