
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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 208

2019 Regular Session

Brass

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

DISTRICTS/SPECIAL: Provides relative to educational facilities improvement districts

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Created educational facilities improvement districts in school districts in parishes with populations in specified ranges instead of creating such districts statewide.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Limit the taxing authority to a 20-year period and authorize renewal.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law creates an educational facilities improvement district in the school districts in the parishes of Tangipahoa, Livingston, East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Webster, Jefferson, Lafayette, Sabine, DeSoto, Red River, Richland, Morehouse, Madison, Tensas, Natchitoches, Winn, East Carroll, West Carroll, LaSalle, Grant, Caldwell, Franklin, Ouachita, Bienville, and St. Landry and in the cities of Monroe and Baker with the authority to levy a sales tax of not more than 1%, subject to voter approval, and to issue bonds secured by such tax to aid school districts in acquisition, construction, and maintenance of facilities, property, and equipment.

Proposed law retains present law except creates such improvement districts in each school district statewide.

Proposed law allows the districts to impose taxes for a maximum of 20 years and allows for renewal, subject to voter approval.

Present law provides that such districts shall have boundaries coterminous with the school district.

Present law provides that such districts are created for purposes of assisting school boards to purchase, construct, or improve school buildings and other school-related facilities; acquire

necessary or desirable equipment and furnishings therefor; repair, maintain, and rehabilitate existing school-related facilities; acquire or improve lands for building sites, playgrounds, and other school-related areas, title to which shall be vested in the public, and to maintain such facilities; to provide funding for other matters for which school boards are authorized by law to expend funds; and generally to assist school boards experiencing financial difficulties regarding capital facilities or other needs.

Present law provides for governance of such districts by a board of at least 5 directors (the number to be determined by the respective school board) and provides for the terms, selection of officers, domicile, and a place or places for meetings. Provides that directors shall serve without compensation but may receive reimbursement of expenses at a rate not to exceed the rate for state employees.

Present law authorizes a district to fund sales tax revenues into bonds in accordance with present law.

Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 33:2740.37(B)(1), (E), and (F))