

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 577

2020 Regular Session

Goudeau

June 1, 2020

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 577 by Representative Goudeau, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

1. That the set of Senate Floor Amendments by Senator White (#2238) be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Jonathan Goudeau, I

Senator Cleo Fields

Representative Mike Huval

Senator Bob Hensgens

Representative Edward C. "Ted" James, II

Senator Mack A. "Bodi" White, Jr.

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

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Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

POLICE/LOCAL: Provides with respect to promotions within certain local police departments

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Added a repeal of present law providing relative to promotions in the Baton Rouge police department.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 Constitution made statutory by the 1974 Constitution. Present law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Present law, relative to both systems, provides that "departmental seniority" refers to the period of continuous employment in the department. Defines "promotional seniority" to mean the total cumulative employment in a class of positions of the next lower class from which a promotion is to be made. Specifies further relative to employment counted toward seniority in the next lower class.

Present law, relative to both systems, provides that a municipal fire and police civil service board is created in the parish, municipal, and fire protection district government. Requires the board to establish and maintain employment lists containing the names of persons eligible for appointment to various classes of positions in the classified service. Requires that names of persons attaining a passing score on a promotion test be placed on the promotion employment list for the tested class, from highest to lowest, according to departmental seniority.

Present law requires that vacant positions be filled by reinstatement or reemployment. If the position cannot be filled in this manner, then the position must be filled by the person on the promotion list with the greatest departmental seniority. Present law provides exceptions for certain police departments.

Proposed law provides an additional exception applicable to the police departments of Broussard, Carencro, Scott, and Youngsville. Requires the appointing authority to select and appoint to any vacancy a person who is among the three highest in departmental seniority.

(Adds R.S. 33:2494(C)(5) and 2554(C)(3))