

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 142 (HB 376)

2020 Regular Session

Marcelle

Existing 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. Existing 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.

Existing law, relative to both systems, creates a municipal fire and police civil service board in each municipality, parish, and fire protection district composed of five members appointed by the respective governing body. Requires that at least two members of the board be appointed who shall be first nominated and elected by and from the regular employees of the fire and police departments.

Existing law requires that each member of the board be a citizen of the U.S. and a qualified voter of the area for which fire or police protection is provided.

Existing law generally requires that each member be a resident of the area for which fire or police protection is provided for at least five years preceding his appointment; however, authorizes a local governing authority to waive this requirement for members elected by the fire and police departments.

New law provides an exception for the city of Baton Rouge. Requires that the three members who are not elected from the fire and police departments be residents of the city of Baton Rouge, the unincorporated area of East Baton Rouge Parish, or a combination thereof for at least five years preceding their appointment. Additionally requires each of those members to be a qualified voter of East Baton Rouge Parish at the time of his appointment.

Effective Aug. 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(e))