

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 105

BY REPRESENTATIVE PRESSLY AND SENATOR PEACOCK

PORTS/HARBORS/TERMINALS: Amends the rights and powers of the Caddo-Bossier Parish Port Commission

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 34:3160(C) and to repeal R.S. 34:3522, relative to the Caddo-
3 Bossier Parish Port Commission; to provide for the rights and powers of the
4 commission; to authorize the commission to perform the functions of an economic
5 and industrial development entity; and to provide for related matters.

6 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
7 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
8 Louisiana.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 34:3160(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §3160. Rights and powers of commission

12 * * *

13 C.(1) The commission shall regulate the commerce and traffic within the
14 port area in such a manner as may, in its judgment, be for the best interests of the
15 state. It shall not be subject in any respect to the authority, control, or supervision
16 of any local regulatory body or any political subdivision of the state. It shall have
17 charge of and administer public wharves, docks, sheds, landings, industrial parks,
18 industrial buildings, and other property or facilities owned, operated or controlled by
19 the commission. It shall have authority to construct or acquire and equip wharves
20 and landings and other structures useful for the commerce of the port area, and

1 provide mechanical facilities therefor; to erect sheds or other structures on said
2 wharves and landings; to provide light, water, police protection and other services
3 for its facilities as it may deem advisable; to construct or acquire, maintain and
4 operate basins, locks, canals, warehouses, and elevators; to charge for the use of all
5 facilities administered by it, and for all services rendered by it; to establish such fees,
6 rates, tariffs or other charges as it may deem fit; to establish harbor lines within the
7 port area by agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and to
8 construct, own, operate, and maintain terminal rail facilities and other common
9 carrier rail facilities for the purpose of rendering rail transportation to and from the
10 facilities to be erected, owned, or operated by the commission in both intrastate and
11 interstate commerce; to acquire and operate existing airports within its territorial
12 jurisdiction together with all property and facilities located thereon; and to acquire
13 and operate adjacent property for said purpose; and to acquire any land as the
14 commission may deem necessary for the present and future operations of cargo
15 airports. The commission shall have authority to plan, finance, develop, construct,
16 ~~and/or~~ and acquire industrial parks ~~and/or~~ and industrial plant buildings within its
17 port area, including sites and other necessary property or appurtenances therefor, and
18 to acquire, construct, develop, improve, operate, maintain, and provide
19 improvements and services necessary therefor, including but not limited to roads,
20 streets, street lighting, bridges, rail facilities, drainage, sewers, sewerage disposal
21 facilities, solid waste disposal facilities, waterworks and other utilities and related
22 properties. Title to such property and improvements shall be in the public and shall
23 vest in the commission for public administration, subject only to the right of the
24 commission to lease, sell or otherwise dispose of the same in the manner provided
25 in this Chapter.

26 (2) In addition to any other powers and functions, the commission may
27 perform the functions of an economic and industrial development entity. Such
28 functions may include but shall not be limited to the following:

- 1 (a) Public relations, advertising, marketing, and providing and disseminating
2 information.
- 3 (b) Government relations, ombudsman, and government liaison.
- 4 (c) Financial and financing assistance.
- 5 (d) Tax abatement.
- 6 (e) Planning and coordination for economic development and resource
7 utilization, including such functions as industrial and economic research and
8 industrial programming and solicitation.
- 9 (f) Industrial training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.
- 10 (g) The use of public and other legal powers to facilitate development.
- 11 (h) Promoting transfer mechanisms to take ideas from their point of origin
12 and development to commercially successful utilization by local enterprises.
- 13 (i) Fostering entrepreneurial activity in the port area.
- 14 (j) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services or
15 new uses for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or marketed in
16 the port area.
- 17 (k) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for local
18 or regional products and processes, including international markets; determining the
19 characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets; and developing new
20 marketing techniques to exploit those markets.
- 21 (l) Fostering and supporting economic industrial development and education
22 in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial institutions, educational
23 institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations, state government and political
24 subdivisions of the state, the federal government, and other organizations or persons
25 concerned with research, development, education, commercial application, and
26 economic or industrial development in ways which increase the economic base of the
27 port area.

- (10) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services or new uses for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or marketed in the port area.
- (11) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for local or regional products and processes, including international markets; determining the characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets; and developing new marketing techniques to exploit those markets.
- (12) Fostering the supporting economic industrial development and education in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial institutions, educational institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations, state government and political subdivisions of the state, the federal government, and other organizations or persons concerned with research, development, education, commercial application, and economic or industrial development in ways which increase the economic base of the port area.

Present law provides for the rights and powers for economic and industrial growth for a commission of a port that is not a deep water port and has a population of not less than 250,000 and not more than 400,000 within its jurisdiction.

Proposed law repeals present law (R.S. 34:3522) but transfers the content to R.S. 34:3160.

(Amends R.S. 34:3160(C); Repeals R.S. 34:3522)