

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 133

BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

CIVIL SERVICE/FIRE & POL: Provides relative to the qualifications of one member of the municipal fire and police civil service board in the city of Zachary

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:2476(B)(1)(f), relative to the city of Zachary; to provide relative to the  
3 municipal fire and police civil service board; to provide relative to the qualifications  
4 of board members; to require a specified member of the board to reside within  
5 certain areas of East Baton Rouge Parish; 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. 33:2476(B)(1)(f) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §2476. Municipal fire and police civil service boards

12 \* \* \*

13 (1)

14 \* \* \*

15 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in the city of  
16 Zachary, the member appointed pursuant to Subparagraph (C)(2)(a) of this Section  
17 shall have been a resident of the city of Zachary, the unincorporated area of East  
18 Baton Rouge Parish, or a combination thereof, for at least five years next preceding  
19 his appointment, and, at the time of his appointment, shall be a qualified voter of  
20 East Baton Rouge Parish.

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**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)]

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HB 133 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Adams

**Abstract:** Relative to the municipal fire and police civil service board in the city of Zachary, changes the qualifications for a certain board member.

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.

Proposed law retains present constitution and present law.

Present 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. Provides that two members must be appointed from a list of nominations submitted by the executive head of a legally chartered and established four-year institution of higher education located within the area served and one member must be appointed upon the governing body's own nomination. Provides further with respect to these appointments. 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.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law generally requires that each member of the board be a citizen of the U.S. and a resident of the area for which fire or police protection is provided for at least five years preceding his appointment. Additionally requires each member to be a qualified voter of the area at the time of his appointment and to serve without compensation.

Present law requires that the two members elected from the fire and police departments be residents of the parish in which they serve for a period of at least five years preceding their appointment to the board, if so permitted by a resolution of the local governing authority. Provides that the two members are not required to be residents or qualified voters of the area in which they are elected to serve or residents of the parish in which the area is located, if so permitted by a resolution of the local governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law but provides an exception for the city of Zachary. Requires that the member who is appointed by the governing body upon its own nomination to have been a resident of the city of Zachary, the unincorporated area of East Baton Rouge Parish, or a combination thereof for at least five years preceding his appointment. Additionally requires the member to be a qualified voter of East Baton Rouge Parish at the time of his appointment.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Expand the boundaries of the unincorporated area of the parish within which a board member may reside from within 2.5 miles of the corporate limits of the city to the entire unincorporated area.