

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 480

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX AND CORTEZ

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. Provides relative to the Lafayette Economic Development Authority. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 34:291(B)(1) and 292(B)(1), to

3 enact R.S. 34:291(B)(3) and 292(B)(1)(e) and (g), and to repeal R.S. 34:291.1 and

4 295, relative to the Lafayette Economic Development Authority; to provide for

5 oversight responsibility; to remove certain responsibilities for examinations and

6 investigations; to provide for board appointment; to provide for transition; to provide

7 for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

8 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 34:291(B)(1) is hereby amended and

11 reenacted and R.S. 34:291(B)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §291. Creation; territorial limits and jurisdiction

13 * * *

14 B.(1) The Lafayette Economic Development Authority is established for the

15 purpose of having a council composed of representatives from the business

16 community, parish and city governments, and the ~~University of Southwestern~~

17 ~~Louisiana~~ **University of Louisiana at Lafayette** to perform the functions of an

1 economic and industrial development agency. Such functions may include, without
2 limitation:

3 * * *

4 (3) No rule, regulation, or order shall be adopted by the Lafayette
5 Economic Development Authority which is inconsistent with or contrary to any
6 law, ordinance, or regulation now in force or hereinafter enacted by the United
7 States of America, the state of Louisiana, or the parish of Lafayette, and any
8 such rule, regulation, or order shall be void, except that no action by the
9 Lafayette Parish Council shall abrogate any contract or agreement duly
10 executed by the authority that was valid and legal when executed.

11 Section 2. R.S. 34:292(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
12 34:292(B)(1)(e) and (g) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §292. Board of commissioners

14 * * *

15 B.(1) The commissioners shall be appointed as follows:

16 * * *

17 (b) Two members, ~~one of whom shall be nominated by the Greater Lafayette~~
18 ~~Chamber of Commerce,~~ shall be appointed by the ~~mayor of the city of Lafayette~~
19 Mayor-President. The ~~mayor of the city of Lafayette~~ Mayor-President may serve
20 as one of the appointments.

21 (c) Two members, one of whom shall be a ~~black citizen~~ racial minority,
22 shall be appointed by the Lafayette City Council.

23 (d) ~~Two members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Central Labor~~
24 ~~Council of Lafayette, shall be appointed by the Lafayette Parish president. The parish~~
25 ~~president may serve as one of the appointments.~~

26 (e) Two members, one of whom shall be a ~~black citizen~~ racial minority,
27 shall be appointed by the Lafayette Parish Council.

28 (e) One member shall be appointed by One Acadiana.

29 (f) Two members, one of whom shall be a racial minority, shall be

1 appointed by the president of the University of ~~Southwestern Louisiana~~ **Louisiana**
2 **at Lafayette**. The president may serve as one of the appointments.

3 **(g) One member shall be appointed by the chancellor of South Louisiana**
4 **Community College. The chancellor may serve as the appointment.**

5 * * *

6 Section 3. R.S. 34:291.1 and 295 are hereby repealed.

7 Section 4. The provisions of Section 2 of this Act shall become effective
8 August 1, 2022.

9 Section 5. The provisions of Sections 1, 3, 4 and this Section of this Act shall become
10 effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration
11 of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article
12 III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently
13 approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such
14 approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

DIGEST

SB 480 Original 2022 Regular Session Boudreaux

Present law creates the Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA) as a political subdivision of the state with its territorial limits and jurisdiction extending throughout the parish of Lafayette.

Present law provides that the LEDA is established for the purpose of having a council composed of representatives from the business community, parish and city governments, and the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL) to perform the functions of an economic and industrial development agency.

Proposed law retains present law and but replaces the USL with University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL).

Proposed law retains present law and adds that no rule, regulation, or order shall be adopted by the LEDA which is inconsistent with or contrary to any law, ordinance, or regulation now in force or hereinafter enacted by the USA, the state of La., or Lafayette Parish, and any such rule, regulation, or order will be void, except that no action by the Lafayette Parish Council (LPC) shall abrogate any contract or agreement duly executed by the authority that was valid and legal when executed.

Present law provides for nomination and appointment of a board of commissioners appointed as follows:

- (1) Two members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Lafayette Parish Farm

Bureau, shall be appointed by a majority vote of the mayors of the incorporated municipalities of Lafayette Parish other than the city of Lafayette.

- (2) Two members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, shall be appointed by the mayor of the city of Lafayette. The mayor of the city of Lafayette may serve as one of the appointments.
- (3) Two members, one of whom shall be a black citizen, shall be appointed by the Lafayette City Council (LCC).
- (4) Two members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Central Labor Council of Lafayette, shall be appointed by the Lafayette Parish president. The parish president may serve as one of the appointments.
- (5) Two members, one of whom shall be a black citizen, shall be appointed by the LPC.
- (6) Two members shall be appointed by the president of the University of Southwestern Louisiana. The president may serve as one of the appointments.

Proposed law makes technical changes to the list of board members and revises the nomination and appointment of board members as follows:

- (1) Two members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Lafayette Parish Farm Bureau, shall be appointed by a majority vote of the mayors of the incorporated municipalities of Lafayette Parish other than the city of Lafayette.
- (2) Two members shall be appointed by the Lafayette Mayor-President. The Lafayette Mayor-President may serve as one of the appointments.
- (3) Two members, one of whom shall be a racial minority, shall be appointed by the Lafayette City Council.
- (4) Two members, one of whom shall be a racial minority, shall be appointed by the Lafayette Parish Council.
- (5) One member shall be appointed by One Acadiana.
- (6) Two members, one who shall be a racial minority, shall be appointed by the president of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. The president may serve as one of the appointments.
- (7) One member shall be appointed by the chancellor of South Louisiana Community College. The chancellor may serve as the appointment.

Further provides that the effective date of such board appointments is August 1, 2022.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 34:291(B)(1)(intro para) and 292(B)(1); adds R.S. 34:291(B)(3) and 292(B)(1)(e) and (g); repeals R.S. 34:291.1 and 295)