
DIGEST

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HB 79 Original

2023 Regular Session

Romero

Abstract: Provides relative to eligibility for admission to the competitive test for the position of deputy police chief in the city of Jennings.

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 law.

Present law relative to both systems, provides that the classified service shall comprise every position, except those in the unclassified service to which the right of employee selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge is vested in the police chief, subject to approval of the appointing authority. Provides that the positions of police chief and assistant police chief shall be in the classified service. Provides further with respect to which positions are in the classified and unclassified service.

Present law additionally authorizes the governing authority to create, by ordinance, the competitive classified position of deputy police chief. Provides that the right of selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge is vested in the police chief, subject to approval of the appointing authority. Further provides that the position of deputy police chief is not the same as the position of assistant police chief as provided in present law.

Present law requires the deputy police chief to have at least eight years of full-time law enforcement experience and to at least hold the rank of sergeant in the classified police service at the time of his appointment. Provides exceptions for the cities of Jennings, Oakdale, and St. Martinville.

Present law limits eligibility for admission to the competitive test for deputy police chief to members of the same department as the police chief at the time of appointment.

Proposed law excepts the city of Jennings from the present law eligibility requirements.

(Amends R.S. 33:2541.1(B)(3))