HLS 24RS-248 REENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 150

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS JOHNSON

DISTRICTS/SPECIAL: Provides relative to the Delta Agriculture Research and Sustainability District

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 3:342(B) and (I)(2) and to enact R.S. 3:341(E), relative to the 3 Delta Agriculture Research and Sustainability District; to establish the domicile of 4 the district; to provide for residency requirements of the district director; to provide 5 relative to ex officio members without voting rights; and to provide for related matters. Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published 7 8 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of 9 Louisiana. 10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 11 Section 1. R.S. 3:342(B) and (I)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 12 3:341(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows: 13 §341. Delta Agriculture Research and Sustainability District; creation; purpose; 14 territorial jurisdiction; domicile 15 16 E. The domicile of the district shall be Concordia Parish. 17 §342. Board of commissioners; members; officers; personal immunity 18 19 B.(1) Members shall serve during their tenure in the offices listed in Subsection A of this Section. 20

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1 (2) The presidents of Louisiana Tech University, University of Louisiana at 2 Monroe, Southern University System, Louisiana State University System, and 3 Grambling State University shall serve as ex officio members without voting rights. 4 I. 5 6 7 (2) The district director, hired after July 1, 2023 2024, shall be a resident of 8 the state. and have been domiciled in the district for the preceding two years prior 9 to employment. The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to the district 10 director employed prior to July 1, 2023 2024. 11

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)]

HB 150 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Travis Johnson

Abstract: Establishes the domicile of the Delta Agriculture Research and Sustainability District and makes certain members of the board of commissioners ex officio members without voting rights. Further removes the requirement that the district director be domiciled in the district within a specified period.

Proposed law specifies that Concordia Parish is the domicile of the district.

<u>Present law</u> specifies that the district is governed by a board of commissioners, consisting of 26 members. In pertinent part, the membership includes the following university presidents:

- (1) The president of La. Tech University or his designee.
- (2) The president of the University of La. at Monroe or his designee.
- (3) The president of the Southern University System or his designee.
- (4) The president of the La. State University System or his designee.
- (5) The president of Grambling State University or his designee.

<u>Proposed law</u> removes the voting rights of the presidents of La. Tech University, University of La. at Monroe, Southern University System, La. State University System, and Grambling State University and their designees making them ex officio members.

<u>Present law</u> requires that a district director hired after July 1, 2023, be a resident of the state and have been domiciled in the district for the preceding two years prior to employment.

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<u>Proposed law modifies present law</u> by removing the requirement that the district director hired after July 1, 2023 be domiciled in the district for two preceding years prior to employment.

(Amends R.S. 3:342(B) and (I)(2); Adds R.S. 3:341(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry,</u>
Aquaculture, and Rural <u>Development</u> to the <u>original bill</u>:

- 1. Make the following members of the board ex officio members without voting rights: the presidents of La. Tech University or his designee; the president of the University of La. at Monroe or his designee; the president of the Southern University System or his designee; the president of the Louisiana State University System or his designee; and the president of Grambling State University or his designee.
- 2. Remove the requirement that a district director hired after July 1, 2024 establish residency in the district within three months from hiring.
- 3. Make technical changes.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.