
DIGEST

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HB 690 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Relative to the Melrose East Crime Prevention District in East Baton Rouge Parish, expands the district's boundaries and purposes, and provides relative to the imposition of a parcel fee.

Present law creates the Melrose East Crime Prevention District in East Baton Rouge Parish for the purpose of aiding in crime prevention and adding to the security of district residents by providing for an increase in the presence of law enforcement personnel in the district.

Provides that the district is governed by a seven-member board of commissioners. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law retains present law but, subject to voter approval, expands the boundaries and purposes of the district to include beautification and other improvements, subject to voter approval.

Present law authorizes the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish, subject to voter approval, to impose and collect a parcel fee within the district. Provides that the amount of the fee shall be as requested by the board. Further provides that the fee shall be a flat fee per improved parcel not to exceed \$200 per year for lots zoned for residential use and \$2,000 per year for lots zoned for commercial use. Requires that the fee be imposed on each improved parcel located within the district.

Proposed law authorizes the district, rather than the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish, to impose and collect a parcel fee within the district. Proposed law retains parcel fee amounts.

Present law requires the initial election on the question of the imposition to be held at the same time as a regularly scheduled election in East Baton Rouge Parish. Provides that the fee shall expire 10 years from its initial levy.

Proposed law provides that the fee expires at the end of the term provided for in the proposition authorizing the fee, not to exceed 10 years.

Present law requires that the fee be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ad valorem taxes are collected. Further requires the parish to collect and remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection. Authorizes the parish to retain a 1% collection fee.

Proposed law instead requires the sheriff of East Baton Rouge Parish to collect and remit to the district all amounts collected not more than 60 days after collection. Authorizes the sheriff to enter

into an agreement with the district for the retention of a collection fee, not to exceed 1%.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish to continue to levy the fee until such time as it expires, as provided in the proposition approved by a majority of the district's registered voters voting on the proposition at an election held on Dec. 10, 2022. However, proposed law authorizes the board to submit the question of imposition of the fee as provided in proposed law to the voters prior to the expiration of the fee. Requires the board to begin to levy a parcel fee as provided in proposed law if the parcel fee has been approved by the voters.

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

(Amends R.S. 33:9097.7(B), (C), and (F))