
DIGEST

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SB 421 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Luneau

Proposed law creates a renaissance district in any parish having a population of more than 129,000 and less than 132,000 persons, which shall be a political subdivision of the state with a territorial jurisdiction throughout the parish to be governed by a board of commissioners.

Provides that the board of commissioners be composed of seven commissioners and that each be a qualified elector and domiciled in the parish.

Proposed law provides that the board of commissioners be appointed for four year terms as follows:

- (1) Five members shall be appointed by the parish police jury as follows:
 - (a) Two members appointed from an existing renaissance home board of directors as long as that board exists, after which time two members shall be appointed from the residents of the parish who are not employed by the parish police jury and who have experience with juveniles in education, rehabilitation, or incarceration of juveniles.
 - (b) Three members who are not employed by the parish police jury and who have experience with juveniles in education, rehabilitation, or incarceration of juveniles.
- (2) One member who is employed by the sheriff's office of the parish and who has experience with juveniles in education, rehabilitation, or incarceration of juveniles.
- (3) One member who is employed by the office of the district attorney of the parish and who has experience with juveniles in education, rehabilitation, or incarceration of juveniles.

Provides that the members of the board of commissioners serve without a salary or per diem but authorizes the board to provide reasonable travel allowances for members in the performance of their official duties.

Proposed law provides for the commissioner to assist and afford opportunities to preadjudicatory and postadjudicatory children who enter the juvenile justice system to become productive, law-abiding citizens of the community, parish, and state through the establishment of rehabilitative programs within a structured environment and the provision of physical facilities and related services for children throughout the parish.

Proposed law authorizes the board to elect a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, whose duties are established by the board. Requires that the board secretary furnish bond in an amount fixed by the board. Provides for an executive committee of the board composed of not more than five members.

Proposed law provides for regular meetings of the board with one regular meeting at least monthly and provides that a majority of the members constitutes a quorum and that all actions and resolutions be approved by a quorum present.

Proposed law authorizes the board to purchase or otherwise acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, improve, repair, operate, lease as lessor or lessee, manage, and administer or enter into contracts for the management, administration, and operation of a juvenile detention facility or facilities, shelter care facility or facilities, or such other juvenile justice

facilities as are useful, necessary, expedient, or convenient to carry out the plans and purposes of the commission and for the orderly conduct of its business.

Proposed law further provides that these facilities may include but are not limited to office facilities, parking facilities, diagnostic facilities, dormitories, and other residential facilities for delinquent, neglected, or abused children or children in need of care or supervision, or in need of services as provided by law as well as for employees, patrons, visitors, and relatives of children who may enter the juvenile justice system or who are in need of care or supervision or services.

Proposed law provides that the commission may lease, purchase, or acquire by donation or otherwise, any property, immovable or movable, tangible or intangible, from any person, firm, or corporation, including the state and its agencies and political subdivisions.

Proposed law authorizes the board to execute contracts of employment for a superintendent or administrator and other necessary personnel and contracts for legal, financial, engineering, and other professional services necessary or expedient for the conduct of its affairs.

Proposed law authorizes the board to incur debt and issue bonds, and it may levy taxes in the manner provided by law.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 15:1109.21-1109.26)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical change.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Authorize the majority of electors in the district, rather than the parish of Rapides, to vote in an election held for the purpose of issuance of general obligation bonds.