

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 262 (HB 255)

2024 Regular Session

Owen

Existing 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. Existing 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.

Existing law, relative to both systems, provides that "departmental seniority" refers to the period of continuous employment in the department. Defines "promotional seniority" to mean the total cumulative employment in a class of positions of the next lower class from which a promotion is to be made.

Existing law, relative to both systems, provides that a municipal fire and police civil service board is created in the parish, municipal, and fire protection district government. Requires the board to establish and maintain employment lists containing the names of persons eligible for appointment to various classes of positions in the classified service. Requires that names of persons attaining a passing score on a promotion test be placed on the promotion employment list for the tested class, from highest to lowest, according to departmental seniority.

Existing law requires that vacant positions be filled by reinstatement or reemployment. If the position cannot be filled in this manner, then the position must be filled by the person on the promotion list with the greatest departmental seniority. Existing law provides exceptions for certain police departments, including a specific exception for police departments in the cities of Broussard, Carencro, Rayne, Scott, and Youngsville. Requires the appointing authorities in those cities to select and appoint to any vacancy a person who is among the three highest in departmental seniority.

New law requires that vacancies in the police department in the city of Leesville be filled in the same manner as vacancies are filled in the cities of Broussard, Carencro, Rayne, Scott, and Youngsville.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 33:2554(C)(4))