

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 647 (HB 974)

2024 Regular Session

Carlson

Existing law authorizes parish and municipal governing authorities to create public libraries. Requires a parish or municipal governing authority to appoint a board of control to govern its libraries. Provides that board of control members serve five-year terms.

Existing law (R.S. 33:1415) provides that the governing authority of any parish or municipality that has the power to create a board or commission also has the power to abolish it and that the governing authority of a parish or municipality that has the power to appoint members to a board or commission also has the power to remove and replace the board members or commissioners. New law makes existing law relative to appointed board members specifically applicable to library boards of control.

Prior law provided that if there was a conflict between the provisions of existing law (R.S. 33:1415 authorizing parish and municipal governing authorities to abolish boards and commissions and to remove and replace board members or commissioners) and the provisions of existing law (R.S. 25:211 et seq. authorizing parish and municipal governing authorities to create public libraries and appoint library boards of control), the provisions applicable to libraries would prevail. New law repeals prior law.

Existing law authorizes a library board of control to establish rules and regulations for its own government and that of the library. Authorizes a board to elect and employ a librarian and assistant librarians and to fix their salaries and compensation.

Existing law provides that only a person who has been certified by the State Bd. of Library Examiners may be hired as head librarian.

New law provides an exception to existing law. New law authorizes a library board of control to hire a library director and establish the qualifications for the library director position, which may include requiring a certificate or permit from the State Bd. of Library Examiners.

New law authorizes a library board of control to provide that the library director serves as the head librarian. Provides that existing law requiring a head librarian to be certified by the State Bd. of Library Examiners does not apply to a head librarian who also serves as the library director.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 25:215(A); Adds R.S. 25:214(D); Repeals R.S. 33:1415(C))