
DIGEST

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HB 41 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Dewitt

Abstract: Provides relative to the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) board of trustees.

Present law provides that membership on the FRS board of trustees includes the following:

- (1) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed by the speaker.
- (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement or his designee.
- (3) Two retirees of the system elected by a majority vote of the retirees and beneficiaries.
- (4) Two mayors appointed by the La. Municipal Assoc.
- (5) The state treasurer or his designee.
- (6) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the board additionally includes two members of the Professional Fire Fighters' Assoc. (PFFA) elected by a majority vote of the officers of the association.

Proposed law provides instead that the five members on the board be active members of the system with at least 10 years of service credit and be elected by a majority vote of the members of the system. Provides that three members be members of the PFFA and two are not members of the PFFA.

Present law provides that the board additionally includes three members of the La. Fire Chiefs Association elected by a majority of the officers of the association.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law provides that in the event a member of the board dies during his term of office, the vacancy is filled in a manner consistent with present law. Provides that if the status of a trustee changes such that he would no longer qualify, or he terminates employment or retires after participant in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), he shall continue to serve until his term expires. Provides that if any other vacancy occurs the vacancy shall be filled in a manner consistent

with present law. Provides that if a trustee's term expires during DROP participation, he is eligible to seek reelection during DROP participation.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires a vacancy of an active member be filled in accordance with proposed law and present law.

Proposed law provides that the terms of the current elected members of the board of trustees terminate upon the effective date of proposed law; however, such members remain in office until the board members are elected as provided in proposed law.

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

(Amends R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(intro. para.) and (a) and (3); Repeals R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(b))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill:

1. Remove proposed provision concerning term limits.
2. Provide that active members of the board of trustees are elected by active members of the system.
3. Provide that three members elected are members of the Professional Fire Fighters Association and two members are elected by nonmembers of the Professional Fire Fighters Association.
4. Remove proposed provisions authorizing the board of trustees to fill a vacancy by appointment with less than two years left of the term.
5. Add provisions repealing present law appointment of fire chiefs to the board of trustees by the La. Fire Chiefs Association.
6. Provide that upon the effective date of proposed law, the terms of certain members serving on the board terminate; however, such members remain on the board of trustees until members are elected as provided in proposed law.
7. Provide that proposed law is effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.
8. Make technical changes.