

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 517

BY SENATOR BARROW

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. Provides for the board of commissioners of the Baton Rouge North Economic Development District. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2740.67(C)(1), (2), (3) and (4), relative to the Baton Rouge
3 North Economic Development District; to provide relative to the membership of the
4 board of commissioners; to provide relative to the term of office for members of the
5 board of commissioners; and to provide for related matters.

6 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:2740.67(C)(1), (2), (3) and (4) are hereby amended and reenacted
9 to read as follows:

10 §2740.67. Baton Rouge North Economic Development District

11 * * *

12 C. Governance. (1) In order to provide for the orderly planning, development,
13 acquisition, construction, and effectuation of the services, improvements, and
14 facilities to be furnished by the district and to provide for the representation in the
15 affairs of the district of those persons and interests immediately concerned with and
16 affected by the purposes and development of the district, the district shall be
17 managed by a ~~nine-member~~ eleven-member board of commissioners, referred to in

1 this Section as the "board". The board shall be comprised of members as follows:

2 (a) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House
3 District No. 29, ~~who shall be a representative of the business community, on a~~
4 ~~rotating basis beginning in 2022 and every other year thereafter.~~

5 (b) Two members shall be appointed by the state senator for Senate District
6 No. 15.

7 (c) One member with a background in economic development shall be
8 appointed by the mayor-president of the parish of East Baton Rouge.

9 (d) One member, **from a list of three nominees submitted by a nominating**
10 **subcommittee established by the board,** shall be appointed with a community
11 development background located within the district to be selected by a subcommittee
12 formed by the board.

13 (e) One member shall be appointed by the owner of the largest parcel of land
14 located within the district.

15 (f) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House
16 District No. 61, ~~on a rotating basis beginning in 2022 and every other year thereafter.~~

17 (g) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House
18 District No. 63, ~~on a rotating basis beginning in 2022 and every other year thereafter.~~

19 (h) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House
20 District No. 67, ~~on a rotating basis beginning in 2023 and every other year thereafter.~~

21 (i) One member shall be appointed by the ~~state representative for House~~
22 ~~District No. 101, on a rotating basis beginning in 2023 and every other year~~
23 ~~thereafter~~ **governing authority of the parish of East Baton Rouge.**

24 (j) One member shall be appointed by the state senator for Senate District No.
25 14.

26 * * *

27 (2) ~~Members shall serve two-year terms.~~ **Members shall serve four-year**
28 **terms. No member shall serve more than two-consecutive four-year terms. A**
29 **partial term of two years or less shall not count toward the term limit. Service**

within the district.

- (6) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House District No. 61, on a rotating basis beginning in 2022 and every other year thereafter.
- (7) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House District No. 63, on a rotating basis beginning in 2022 and every other year thereafter.
- (8) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House District No. 67, on a rotating basis beginning in 2023 and every other year thereafter.
- (9) One member shall be appointed by the state representative for House District No. 101, on a rotating basis beginning in 2023 and every other year thereafter.
- (10) One member shall be appointed by the state senator for Senate District No. 14.

Proposed law changes present law and provides that the member appointed by the state representative for House District No. 29, does not have to be a representative of the business community.

Proposed law changes present law and provides that the member with the community background shall be selected from a list of three nominees submitted by a nominating subcommittee established by the board.

Proposed law removes the rotating terms of board members, resulting in the board of commissioners being composed of eleven members.

Present law provides that board members shall serve two-year terms.

Proposed law increases the term of board members from two-year terms to four-year terms.

Proposed law provides that no member shall serve more than two-consecutive four-year terms. Provides that a partial term of two years or less shall not count toward the term limit. Further provides that service for more than two years of a partial term limit shall count as one consecutive term.

Proposed law provides that two members shall serve an initial term of one year; two member shall serve an initial term of two years; three member shall serve an initial term of three years; four member shall serve an initial term of four years, all as determined by lot at the first meeting of the board. Further provides that each reappointment to a seat shall be for a four-year term expiring in the same cycle year applicable to that seat

Present law provides that board members shall be eligible for reappointment, but the cumulative term of service shall not exceed four years.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the four year cumulative term restriction.

Present law provides that any vacancy which occurs prior to the expiration of the term for which a member of the board has been appointed shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that if a vacancy is not filled within 60 days, the governor shall appoint an interim member from a list of three nominees provided by the original appointing authority.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 33:2740.67(C)(1), (2), (3) and (4))