

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 334 by Representative Champagne

LEVEES/BDS & DISTRICTS: Creates the Vermilion Parish Levee, Hurricane Protection, and Conservation District

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Changes maximum term of appointment as a commissioner from not more than four to not more than three consecutive terms.
2. Changes maximum term that a person appointed to fill more than one-half of an unexpired term as a commissioner from three to no more than two consecutive terms in addition to such partial term.
3. Adds a member to the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration Protection Authority that is not a resident of either Calcasieu nor Cameron Parishes and is an engineer or a professional in a related field such as geotechnical, hydrological or environmental science.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law creates the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority (authority). Further provides that the boundaries of the authority will encompass all of the lands in the parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion.

Proposed law removes Vermilion Parish from the boundaries of the authority.

Present law provides that the governor will appoint, subject to Senate confirmation, nine persons to serve as commissioners as follows:

- (1) The president of Calcasieu Parish will submit a list of six nominations, subject to ratification by the governing authority of Calcasieu Parish, and the governor will appoint three members from the list.
- (2) The president of Cameron Parish will submit a list of six nominations, subject to ratification by the governing authority of Cameron Parish, and the governor will appoint three members from the list.
- (3) The president of Vermilion Parish will submit a list of six nominations, subject to ratification by the governing authority of Vermilion Parish, and the governor will appoint three members from the list.

Proposed law retains present law except that it removes the nominations and appointments from Vermilion Parish, which changes the number of commissioners appointed by the governor to serve on the board from nine members to six members.

Proposed law provides for the Vermilion Parish Levee, Hurricane Protection, and Conservation District, which shall encompass all of the lands in the parish of Vermilion.

Proposed law requires that the governor appoint a board of commissioners, subject to Senate confirmation, consisting of nine members who reside in the portion of Vermilion Parish located within the district.

Proposed law provides that the governor will appoint, subject to Senate confirmation, nine

persons to serve as commissioners as follows:

- (1) Two members from the Vermilion Parish Police Jury.
- (2) One member from the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal Port Commission.
- (3) One member to be appointed from each of the following municipalities within Vermilion Parish, which includes the city of Abbeville, the city of Kaplan, the town of Erath, the town of Gueydan, the town of Delcambre, and the village of Maurice.

Proposed law provides for vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the original appointments provided in proposed law.

Proposed law requires commissioners to determine by lot their terms of office at the first meeting, which shall commence immediately upon appointment and expire respectively as follows: three members in two years, three members in three years, and three members in four years.

Proposed law provides that all commissioners appointed after the initial appointments, shall be appointed in accordance with proposed law for staggered terms of four years, which shall expire on July 1 of the fourth year, or until the successor is appointed to take office. Further provides that no member shall serve more than three consecutive four-year terms.

Proposed law provides that if a commissioner is appointed to fill more than ½ of an unexpired term, that person shall be eligible to serve no more than two additional consecutive terms.

Proposed law requires the board to establish the official domicile of the board.

Proposed law provides for taxing authority, with restrictions regarding the city of Abbeville's home rule charter.

(Amends R.S. 38:291(AA)(1) and (2); Adds R.S. 38:291(CC))