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## DIGEST

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Brown

HB No. 180

**Abstract:** Provides for the abolition of the Goldonna police chief and authorizes the municipality to contract for law enforcement services.

Present law provides that the officers of every municipality shall be a mayor, aldermen, a chief of police, a tax collector, and a clerk.

Present law provides for at-large election of the mayor and police chief in all municipalities. Further provides for exceptions with respect to the chief of police in certain municipalities.

Present law (R.S. 33:362(C)) provides that any department of a municipality, other than the police department in a municipality with an elected chief of police, shall be created, abolished, merged, or consolidated by the board of aldermen, upon the written recommendation of the mayor.

Proposed law provides an exception for the office of the chief of police in the village of Goldonna. Provides that the board of aldermen may, upon the recommendation of the mayor, adopt an ordinance calling for an election to abolish the office of chief of police. The election shall be held in accordance with the La. Election Code.

Proposed law provides that, if a majority votes to abolish the office of chief of police, the office shall be abolished upon the end of the term of the chief of police in office at the time or when a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs first; however, if at the time the election occurs the office is filled by an officer temporarily appointed, the abolition of the office shall become effective as provided by ordinance.

Proposed law provides that, if the office of chief of police is abolished pursuant to present law, the mayor and board of aldermen may contract with any law enforcement entity or officer within Natchitoches Parish for police services.

(Adds R.S. 33:381(C)(32))