

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 180

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROWN

MUNICIPAL/LAWRASON ACT: Provides relative to abolition of the position of police chief in the village of Goldonna

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:381(C)(32), relative to the village of Goldonna and Natchitoches Parish;
3 to provide for the abolition of the office of police chief and the police department in
4 Goldonna; to provide limitations and requirements on such an abolition which
5 include a requirement for voter approval; to authorize the municipality to contract
6 with other law enforcement entities in the parish for law enforcement services; and
7 to provide for related matters.

8 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
9 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
10 Louisiana.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 33:381(C)(32) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §381. Municipal officers

14 * * *

15 C.

16 * * *

17 (32)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the board
18 of alderman of the village of Goldonna may, upon the recommendation of the mayor,
19 adopt an ordinance calling for an election to abolish the office of chief of police.
20 The election shall be held in accordance with the Louisiana Election Code. If a

1 majority of the qualified electors voting at such election votes to abolish the office
 2 of chief of police, the office shall be abolished upon the end of the term of the chief
 3 of police in office at the time or when a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever
 4 occurs first; however, if at the time the election occurs the office is filled by an
 5 officer temporarily appointed, the abolition of the office shall become effective as
 6 provided by ordinance.

7 (b) If the office of chief of police is abolished and the municipal police
 8 department is abolished pursuant to R.S. 33:362(C), the mayor and board of
 9 aldermen may contract with or enter into any cooperative endeavor with any law
 10 enforcement entity or officer within Natchitoches Parish for police services for the
 11 village.

* * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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))