
DIGEST

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Garofalo

HB No. 554

Abstract: Creates the Fort Pike Fire Protection District in Orleans Parish to provide additional fire protection personnel and services within the boundaries of the district.

Proposed law creates the Fort Pike Fire Protection District in Orleans Parish as a political subdivision of the state to provide additional fire protection personnel and services within the boundaries of the district. Provides for the district's boundaries. Provides that the district shall be governed by the members of the governing board of the Fort Pike Volunteer Fire Department District One.

Proposed law provides for the district's powers and duties, including the following:

- (1) To sue and be sued.
- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (3) To receive and expend funds collected pursuant to proposed law and in accordance with a budget adopted as provided by proposed law.
- (4) To enter into contracts with individuals or entities, private or public.
- (5) To engage in the operation of firefighting equipment, the prevention of fire hazards, and the extinguishing of fires within the district.

Proposed law authorizes the board, subject to voter approval to levy annually an ad valorem tax not to exceed five mills on the dollar of assessed valuation of all property. Requires that the proceeds of the tax be used solely and exclusively for the purpose and benefit of the district.

Proposed law requires the district to adopt an annual budget in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act and provides that the district is subject to audit by the legislative auditor pursuant to present law (R.S. 24:513(B)).

Proposed law provides that the provisions of proposed law shall not be construed as changing or affecting the structure and organization or the distribution and redistribution of the powers and functions of the city of New Orleans. Provides that the city shall continue to provide fire protection personnel and services as authorized by applicable general and local laws and provides that the powers granted to the commission pursuant to proposed law are subordinate to the

powers granted to the city.

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

(Adds R.S. 40:1503.1)