

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARMES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES CMN: Adds new members to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 36:601(A) and R.S. 56:1(B), (C), and (D), relative to the
3 Wildlife and Fisheries Commission; to provide relative to the membership of the
4 commission; to provide for appointment and terms of office; to provide an effective
5 date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 36:601(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §601. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

9 A. The control and supervision of the wildlife of the state, including all
10 aquatic life, is vested in the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The
11 commission shall be in the executive branch and shall consist of seven members
12 appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Six of the
13 members shall serve for overlapping terms of six years, and one shall serve for a
14 term concurrent with that of the governor. Three members shall be electors of the
15 coastal parishes and representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries, two
16 members shall be electors appointed at large from the parishes located north of a line
17 created by the northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline,
18 Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee, and ~~four~~ two shall be electors from the state at large
19 other than representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries, ~~as provided~~

1 ~~by law.~~ No member who has served six years or more shall be eligible for
2 reappointment.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. R.S. 56:1(B), (C), and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
5 follows:

6 §1. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission established; membership; qualifications;
7 definitions

8 * * *

9 B. The commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the
10 governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Six of the members shall each serve
11 for overlapping terms of six years, and one shall serve for a term concurrent with that
12 of the governor.

13 C. Three members of the commission shall be electors of the coastal parishes
14 and representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries. Two members shall
15 be electors appointed at large from the parishes located north of a line created by the
16 northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and
17 Pointe Coupee. The other ~~four~~ two members shall be electors from the state at large,
18 other than representatives of the commercial fishing and fur industries.

19 D. The members of the commission ~~commissioners heretofore appointed~~
20 ~~under the provisions of Article VI, Section 1 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1921~~
21 ~~and presently serving as commissioners~~ on January 1, 2015, shall continue to serve
22 for the terms for which appointed. Thereafter, any vacancy occurring in the
23 commission by reason of the expiration of the term for which appointed or by reason
24 of death, resignation, or otherwise shall be filled by appointment by the governor;
25 however, persons appointed to fill the vacancy created by a retiring or deceased
26 commissioner shall be appointed for the unexpired term of such commissioner only.

27 * * *

28 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall become effective if, as, and when the
29 proposed amendment to the Louisiana Constitution proposed by the Act which originated

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.

- 1 as House Bill No. _____ of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature is adopted at a
2 statewide election and becomes effective.

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)]

Armes

HB No. 503

Abstract: Requires two of the at-large members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission be appointed from the northern parishes of the state.

Present law provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission consist of seven members to be appointed by the governor to represent certain industries and at large from the state.

Proposed law retains present law and specifies that two of the at-large members must each be electors from north of a line created by the northern boundary of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee.

Proposed law becomes effective if, as, and when the amendment to the constitution proposed by HB No. _____ of the 2013 R.S. is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

(Amends R.S. 36:601(A) and R.S. 56:1(B), (C), and (D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill.

1. Remove the additional commission members.
2. Provide that the terms of office remain the same as present law.
3. Require that two of the commissioners appointed at-large from the state be electors of parishes located north of a line created by the northern boundaries of the parishes of Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles, and Pointe Coupee.
4. Remove the transition provisions for the additional members.