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## DIGEST

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Tim Burns

HB No. 253

**Abstract:** Authorizes the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to create a geographic information system district.

Proposed law authorizes the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to create and establish, as a political subdivision, a geographic information system district for the development and application of geographic information systems. Provides that the boundaries of the district are coterminous with the boundaries of the parish.

Proposed law provides that the district is governed by a board composed of no less than five and no more than nine members as follows: the parish president and the assessor or their designees, one member appointed by the governing board of the St. Tammany Communication District No. 1, who may be a member of the governing board, two members appointed by the parish governing authority, one of whom must represent municipalities located within the parish and one of whom must represent fire districts located within the parish. Provides for appointment of up to four additional members who may represent political subdivisions, organizations, or other entities located in the parish.

Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the district, including the authority to incur debt, sue and be sued, adopt bylaws and rules and regulations, and to enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or private association, corporation, business entity, or individual. Provides that the district shall not be deemed to be an instrumentality of the state for purposes of the state civil service provisions of the state constitution.

Proposed law authorizes the board to levy annually an ad valorem tax and to levy and collect a sales and use tax, not to exceed 1%, all subject to voter approval. Requires the board to adopt an annual budget and provides that the district shall be subject to audit by the legislative auditor.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:130.791-796)