
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry G. Jones.

DIGEST

Chabert (SB 305)

Proposed law provides for the Coastal Louisiana Levee Consortium to be an advisory commission of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board. Provides that it shall be a public body and subject to open meetings and public record laws.

Proposed law provides that the purpose of the consortium shall be to facilitate communication and coordination of efforts to protect coastal Louisiana, its people, property, and resources; to increase awareness and understanding of integrated coastal protection, including but not limited to conditions, issues, strategies, and policies of flood control, coastal levee systems, hurricane risk reduction systems, and mitigation projects; and to provide a unified voice that is representative of the coastal levee community in communicating information necessary for decision-making to policymakers at the state and federal levels and to the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority and Board.

Proposed law provides that the consortium shall:

- (1) Advise the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board concerning integrated coastal protection, including but not limited to conditions, issues, strategies, and policies of flood control, coastal levee systems, hurricane risk reduction systems, and mitigation projects.
- (2) Coordinate the exchange of information among consortium members and advise consortium members and others in assessing and addressing the above issues.
- (3) Evaluate the potential of various strategies, develop regional awareness of effective strategies, and develop a regional plan for the improvement of regional levee systems and integrated coastal protection.
- (4) Seek the input of other local officials in assessing, addressing, or developing any regional strategy or plan.
- (5) Seek the expertise of and work in conjunction with any other interested federal, state or local entities, including but not limited to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and nongovernmental organizations.
- (6) Provide an annual report on the status of levees and integrated coastal protection within the member levee districts, flood protection authorities, and parishes no later than January first of each year to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

Proposed law provides that the consortium members shall consist of the director, general manager, or president, or their designee, of each board of commissioners of a coastal levee district or flood protection authority, including the following:

- (1) Atchafalaya Basin Levee District.
- (2) Grand Isle Independent Levee District.
- (3) Lafourche Basin Levee District.
- (4) North Lafourche Conservation, Levee and Drainage District.
- (5) Pontchartrain Levee District.
- (6) South Lafourche Levee District.
- (7) Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District.
- (8) Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East.
- (9) Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West.
- (10) Lafitte Area Independent Levee District.
- (11) St. Mary Levee District.
- (12) Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane and Conservation District.
- (13) Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority.
- (14) Amite River Basin Commission.
- (15) Any other levee district or flood protection authority that may be created and made operational for a coastal parish after January 1, 2014, including but not limited to levee districts or flood protection authorities for Acadia, Lafayette, Jefferson Davis, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Vermilion parishes. However, until such time as a levee district or flood protection authority is created and made operational for the parish, the parish president or police jury president, or their designee, of each of the above parishes shall be a member of the consortium.
- (16) Plaquemines Parish president.

Proposed law provides for the calling of meetings and election of officers from among the consortium members, including the chairman who shall also serve on the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

Proposed law provides that members of the consortium shall receive no pay or allowances for their attendance at meetings of the consortium, but may be compensated for expenses incurred in attending meetings by their respective governing authorities according to the authority's regulations. Participation as a member of the consortium shall be considered as a function of the office held by the member in their governing authority. Further provides that a meeting of the consortium shall be convened at least twice a year in the capital of the state or at a location in the coastal area of the state, as determined by the consortium members.

Present law provides for Coastal Levee Consortium and sets forth certain purposes and duties.

Proposed law repeals present law.

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

(Adds R.S. 49:214.6.8; repeals R.S. 38:331)