

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1001

BY REPRESENTATIVE WESLEY BISHOP

PROPERTY/ABANDONED: Authorizes the city of New Orleans to sell blighted property in the Lower Ninth Ward for a fixed price

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 13-A of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be
3 comprised of R.S. 33:4720.11, relative to the city of New Orleans; to require the city
4 to sell certain property in the Lower Ninth Ward for a specified price under certain
5 circumstances; to provide for conditions and limitations; to require rules and
6 regulations; to provide for the duration of the requirement; and to provide for related
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Lower Ninth Ward Redevelopment Act".

10 Section 2. Chapter 13-A of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
11 comprised of R.S. 33:4720.11, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 CHAPTER 13-A. SALE OF ~~ABANDONED~~ PROPERTY

13 §4720.11. Sale of property in the Lower Ninth Ward

14 A.(1) Pursuant to Article VII, Section 14(B)(13) of the Constitution of
15 Louisiana, the city of New Orleans shall sell vacant lots that are located in the Lower
16 Ninth Ward and that were acquired prior to January 1, 2015, through the Louisiana
17 Road Home program and that are either owned by the New Orleans Redevelopment
18 Authority or the authority has been tasked with management and disposition of the
19 property for one hundred dollars per abandoned parcel. For purposes of this Section,
20 the Lower Ninth Ward is that area of Orleans Parish bounded by Jourdan Avenue,

1 Florida Avenue, the Orleans Parish-St. Bernard Parish line, and the Mississippi
2 River.

3 (2) Property shall be sold pursuant to this Section only to a purchaser who
4 meets either of the following criteria:

5 (a) He is qualified under the Lot Next Door program or any similar program
6 which authorizes the sale of property to adjacent property owners and agrees to
7 retain and maintain the property for not less than five years.

8 (b) He agrees to build a residence on the property and to reside at that
9 residence for not less than five years.

10 (3) Property shall not be sold pursuant to this Section to a developer or a
11 corporate entity.

12 (4) The governing authority of the city of New Orleans, in consultation with
13 the state representative from House District No. 99 and the state senator from Senate
14 District No. 2, shall establish rules and regulations necessary to implement the
15 provisions of this Section.

16 B. The provisions of this Section cease to be effective ten years after the
17 effective date of this Section.

18 Section 3. This Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the Act
19 which originated as House Bill No. 489 of this 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature is
20 enacted 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)]

Wesley Bishop

HB No. 1001

Abstract: Requires the city of New Orleans to sell certain Road Home program property in the Lower Ninth Ward for \$100 per parcel.

Proposed law requires the city of New Orleans to sell, for \$100 per parcel, vacant lots that are located in the Lower Ninth Ward, were acquired through the La. Road Home program, and are either owned by the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority or the authority has been tasked with management and disposition of the property. Provides that such sales shall only be to a purchaser who is qualified under the Lot Next Door program or any similar program that authorizes the sale of property to adjacent property owners and who agrees to

retain and maintain the property for five years or who agrees to build a residence on the property and to reside at that residence for five years. Prohibits sale to a developer or corporate entity. Requires the governing authority of the city of New Orleans, in consultation with the state representative from district 99 and the state senator from district two, to establish necessary rules and regulations.

Proposed law is only effective upon the passage and enactment of HB. No. 489 of the 2014 R.S. and ceases to be effective in 10 years.

(Adds R.S. 33:4720.11)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill.

1. Requires rather than authorizes the sale of property.
2. Specifies qualified purchasers of property pursuant to proposed law.
3. Changes property to which proposed law is applicable from abandoned property to former Road Home program property; in conformity therewith, removes definition of "abandoned property".

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Adds specification of the area comprising the Lower Ninth Ward.
2. Adds requirement that property to be sold pursuant to proposed law was acquired prior to Jan. 1. 2015.
3. Adds requirements that purchasers retain or reside at the property for at least five years.
4. Adds prohibition of selling property to a developer or corporation.
5. Adds requirement for consultation with specified legislators in the adoption of program rules.