

SENATE BILL NO. 601

BY SENATOR AMEDEE

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:381(C)(33), relative to the town of Sorrento; to provide for the abolition of the office of the chief of police and the police department; to provide for limitations and requirements on such abolition; to require voter approval; to authorize the municipality to contract for law enforcement services; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:381(C)(33) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§381. Municipal officers

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C.

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(33)(a)(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the council of the town of Sorrento may, upon the recommendation of the mayor, adopt an ordinance calling for an election to abolish the office of chief of police, the police department, or both. The election shall be held in accordance with the Louisiana Election Code.

(ii) If a majority of the qualified electors voting at such election vote to abolish the office of chief of police, the office shall be abolished upon the end of the term of the chief of police in office at the time or when a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs first; however, if at the time the election occurs the office is filled by an officer temporarily appointed, the abolition of the office shall become effective as provided by ordinance.

(iii) If a majority of the qualified electors voting at such election vote to abolish the police department, the abolition of the department shall become

1 effective as provided by ordinance.

2 (b) If the office of chief of police is abolished or the municipal police
3 department is abolished, or both, the mayor and council may contract, or enter
4 into a cooperative endeavor, with any law enforcement entity or officer within
5 Ascension Parish for police services for the town.

6 * * *

7 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
8 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
9 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
10 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
11 effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____