

New 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.

New 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 Parish Communication District No. 1, who may be a member of the governing board; and 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. Authorizes the parish governing authority to appoint up to four additional members who may represent political subdivisions, organizations, or other entities located in the parish. Requires appointed board members to serve four-year staggered terms and requires the parish president and assessor to serve during their terms of office. Provides that designees serve at the pleasure of the respective designating authority.

New 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 new law shall not be construed to grant the power of expropriation to the district. 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.

New law requires the board to adopt an annual budget and provides that the district is subject to audit by the legislative auditor.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 22, 2014).

(Adds R.S. 33:130.791-795)