
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)]

HB 944 Original

2016 Regular Session

Carmody

Abstract: Prohibits state and local governmental entities from taking actions with respect to removal or destruction of memorials and from renaming any public facility named after or dedicated to a person. Creates a board authorized to grant exceptions.

Proposed law prohibits a state or local governmental entity from:

- (1) Relocating, removing, altering, renaming, or otherwise disturbing or permitting any such disturbance of a statue, monument, memorial, or plaque that was erected or installed on public property to commemorate a person, group of persons, event, or achievement and that has been in place for more than 30 years.
- (2) Renaming or rededicating a public facility that has been named or dedicated in honor of a person for more than 30 years.

Proposed law creates the Memorial Preservation Bd. within the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, which is authorized to grant waivers to the prohibitions contained in proposed law. Provides that in granting such waivers, the board shall waive the prohibitions only to the degree necessary and shall attempt to minimize the disruption of the historical value of the memorial or facility. Authorizes granting waivers for the following purposes:

- (1) Public safety.
- (2) The repair or preservation of the memorial itself.
- (3) Public works projects.
- (4) Public consensus that the historic information on which the recognition of the person or event was based was inaccurate.
- (5) Other purposes deemed appropriate by the board and consistent with proposed law.

Proposed law provides as follows with respect to the Memorial Preservation Bd.:

- (1) Comprised of seven members, three appointed by the governor, two appointed by the lieutenant governor, one appointed by the president of the Senate and one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

- (2) Members serve four-year terms concurrent with the governor.
- (3) Provides that the staff of the division of historic preservation in the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism shall assist the board in its work.
- (4) Members of the board serve without compensation.

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

(Adds R.S. 25:915 and R.S. 36:209(I))