
DIGEST

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HB 471 Original

2019 Regular Session

Glover

Abstract: Relative to municipal fire and police civil service board in the city of Shreveport, provides for the salary and benefits of the board secretary.

Present constitution creates a fire and police civil service system applicable to municipalities of over 13,000 in population and parishes and fire protection districts. Provides that the system is subject to Art. XIV, §15.1 of the 1921 constitution made statutory by the 1974 constitution.

Present law creates and provides for two fire and police civil service systems: (1) one applicable to any municipality which operates paid police and fire departments and which has a population of not fewer than 13,000 persons; and (2) one applicable to any parish, fire protection district, or municipality with a population of fewer than 13,000, but not fewer than 7,000 persons.

Present law relative to both systems, provides that a municipal fire and police civil service board is created in each municipality, parish, and fire protection district. Provides that the board shall be composed of five members who shall serve without compensation. Further provides that the board shall have a chairman, vice-chairman, and a secretary.

Present law relative to the system applicable to municipalities with a population of not fewer than 13,000, provides that at the discretion of the board, the office of secretary must be filled in one of the following ways:

- (1) By electing one of its members thereto.
- (2) By appointing the city clerk or secretary-treasurer of the municipality to fill such office ex officio.
- (3) By employing on a part-time basis any other person and paying a salary not to exceed \$1,250 per month, which salary must be approved by the municipal governing authority.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides an exception for municipalities with a population in excess of 150,000 but not more than 210,000 by authorizing them to fill the secretary position by employing any person on a full-time basis. Proposed law removes reference to population range and makes present law applicable to the city of Shreveport. Proposed law additionally clarifies that the board, not the city, may fill the secretary position with any person whom the board deems qualified.

Present law authorizes the municipalities to establish a rate of salary and benefits that is equivalent to like administrative personnel of the respective municipality. Proposed law removes present law and instead requires that the secretary for the Shreveport fire and police civil service board receive compensation and benefits within a salary range that is comparable to the salary range established for classified personnel employed in similar administrative positions in the city. Provides that the secretary serves at the pleasure of the board and is solely accountable to the board.

(Amends R.S. 33:2476.6)