
DIGEST

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Abramson

HB No. 684

Abstract: Provides that certain requirements for notice of meetings of a political subdivision and for recording or broadcast of board or commission meetings shall not apply to crime prevention and security districts, improvement districts, and certain other similar districts.

Present law (R.S. 42:19.1) requires public notice of a meeting at which a political subdivision intends to levy, increase, renew, or continue any ad valorem property tax or sales and use tax or authorize the calling of an election for submitting such a question to the voters.

Present law (R.S. 42:23(A)) requires a nonelected board or commission that has the authority to levy a tax to video or audio record, film, or broadcast live all proceedings in a public meeting.

Present law (Chapter 29 of Title 33 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950 "Neighborhood Improvement Districts") creates or authorizes creation of various districts in particular neighborhoods or subdivisions. Part I concerns districts in Jefferson Parish with purposes related to security as well as other improvements. The parish governing authority is the district governing authority. These districts have authority to levy specified taxes and/or parcel fees and these are levied by the governing authority of the district (which is the parish governing authority). Part II concerns Orleans Parish. It provides for improvement districts for which parcel fees and in some cases ad valorem taxes are levied by the city council of New Orleans. It also provides for development districts which do not have authority for a tax or fee. Part II also provides for crime prevention and security districts in Orleans Parish, which generally are funded by parcel fees levied by the New Orleans City Council. Part III concerns East Baton Rouge Parish. Most of these districts are funded by a parcel fee levied by the governing authority of the parish, but at least one of the districts levies its own parcel fee directly.

Proposed law provides that present law relative to notice of meetings and recording or broadcast of meetings shall not apply to meetings of the governing authority of any crime prevention and security district, improvement district, or other district created by or pursuant to Chapter 29 of Title 33 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950 for which a tax or parcel fee is levied by the governing authority of a parish or municipality and not by the governing authority of the district.

(Adds R.S. 33:9099.2)