
 DIGEST

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SB 227 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Morrell

Present law provides that the public water, sewerage, and drainage systems of the city of New Orleans shall be constructed, controlled, maintained, and operated by the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

Present law provides for the board to be composed of the mayor, two syndicate members of the board of liquidation, city debt, and eight members appointed by the mayor from a list of nominees submitted by the Sewerage and Water Board Selection Committee. The mayor's appointments shall include one member from each of the five councilmen's districts within the city of New Orleans and two members who shall be consumer advocates with community advocacy or consumer protection experience or experience in a related field. The citizen appointees are subject to confirmation by the city council. Provides that six members constitute a quorum.

Proposed law removes one of the appointments granted to the mayor and adds the chair of the public works committee of the city council, a member of the committee appointed by the chair, or a civil engineer appointed by the chair. Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Present law requires the board to submit quarterly reports to the city council. Proposed law retains present law and additionally establishes submission deadlines and requires that additional content be included in the report. Proposed law provides that if reports are not timely submitted, the executive director must attend the next city council meeting and explain the reasons for the delay.

Proposed law takes effect on the first day of January following an election at which a majority of the voters of the city of New Orleans approve an amendment to the home rule charter of the city to change the composition of the sewerage and water board to provide the identical composition of the board as contained in proposed law and terminates the terms of members serving on the board on that date. Proposed law is not to be construed to prevent the reappointment to the board of a member in office on the effective date of proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 33:4071(A)(1), (2)(a), (4), (5), 4074, and 4091(C)(intro para); adds R.S. 33:4091(C)(8), (D), and (E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to the original bill

1. Changes proposed board membership from adding a member elected by the New Orleans City Council to adding a member selected by the chair of the public works committee.
2. Reduces membership of the board from syndicate members of the board of liquidations, city debt from two to one.
3. Reduces proposed membership of the board who are citizens from nine to eight.
4. Removes proposed law limitation that the mayor's designee to the board shall be his chief administrative officer.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes Legislative Bureau technical corrections.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the reengrossed bill:

1. Clarify that the chair of the public works committee of the city council will either serve as a member of the board or appoint a member who must be a member of the committee or a civil engineer.
2. Restore present law mayoral appointments of two members of the board of liquidation, city debt rather than one member.
3. Reduce the number of mayoral appointments of citizens from eight to seven.
4. Restore present law provision for board quorum of six members rather than seven members.