HLS 17RS-714 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 151

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BY REPRESENTATIVE REYNOLDS

DISTRICTS/FIRE PROTECT: Provides relative to service charges collected by Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11 in Webster Parish

AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1502.11(A) and (B), relative to the fire service charge 3 collected by Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11 in Webster Parish; to increase 4 the maximum rate of the service charge; to provide relative to collection of the 5 service charge and the costs of collection; and to provide for related matters. 6 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published 7 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of 8 Louisiana. 9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 10 Section 1. R.S. 40:1502.11(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read 11 as follows: 12 §1502.11. Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11; fire service charge 13 A.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the governing 14 authority of Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11 is hereby authorized to may 15 establish, by majority vote of the members of the authority, a fire service charge not 16 to exceed four sixteen dollars per month. The governing authority shall not increase 17 the amount of the service charge by more than one dollar in a one-year period if the 18 charge after the increase would be more than eight dollars.

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

(2) The person owning or occupying each residential or commercial structure
located wholly or partly within the boundaries of the fire protection district who has
made a deposit for the water service for the structure shall be assessed the service
charge, subject to the provisions of Subsection B of this Section. Such service charge
shall be used for the costs of fire protection services. For purposes of this Section,
each residential or commercial unit within a structure and each housing unit within
a multiple dwelling structure shall be considered a separate structure, and a mobile
home as defined in R.S. 9:1149.2(3) shall be considered a separate structure.
(3) The proceeds of the service charge shall be used for the costs of fire
protection services.
B.(1) The governing authority of the fire protection district may use any
legal, proper, necessary, and expedient means to collect and enforce the collection
of such charge, including contracting with the city of Springhill water department
and the Dorcheat Acres Water System. Any water company, as collection agency for
the fire service charge, may add the charge levied by said the fire protection district
to the water bills of its customers. If a structure does not have water service for more
than one year, the service charge shall be placed on the tax rolls of Webster Parish
and collected at the same time and in the same manner as ad valorem taxes.
(2) On or before the tenth day of the month following the collection of the
charge, the collection agency shall remit to the fire protection district all funds
collected for the purposes of fire protection, less a small and reasonable service
charge for administrative purposes of collection. The administrative charge shall not
exceed one hundred dollars per month or twelve hundred dollars per year.

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 151 Original

2017 Regular Session

Reynolds

Abstract: Increases the maximum rate of a service charge collected by Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11 in Webster Parish and provides relative to the collection of the charge.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the governing authority of Springhill Fire Protection District No. 11 to establish a monthly service charge on residential and commercial structures to cover the costs of fire protection services. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u>.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the maximum charge is \$4. <u>Proposed law</u> increases the maximum charge to \$16. <u>Proposed law</u> provides, however, that the charge shall not be increased by more than one dollar in a one-year period if the charge after the increase would be more than \$8.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the district to use any means to collect and enforce the collection of such charge, including contracting with water providers to have the charge added to water bills. <u>Proposed law</u> additionally provides that if a structure does not have water service for more than one year, the service charge shall be placed on the tax rolls of Webster Parish and collected at the same time and in the same manner as ad valorem taxes.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the entity collecting the charge to retain a small and reasonable administrative charge. <u>Proposed law</u> provides that such administrative charge shall not exceed \$100 per month or \$1,200 per year.

(Amends R.S. 40:1502.11(A) and (B))