

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 531

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

POLICE/MUNICIPAL: Provides relative to the powers granted to the chief of police for the city of Opelousas

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:423.28, relative to the Opelousas police department; to authorize the police  
3 chief to discipline police personnel; and to provide for related matters.

4 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
5 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
6 Louisiana.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:423.28 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §423.28. City of Opelousas; authority over police personnel by chief of police

10 Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 33:423 or any other provision of law  
11 to the contrary, in and for the city of Opelousas, the chief of police shall discipline  
12 police personnel, not including termination, subject to the budgetary limitations  
13 established by the mayor and board of alderman pertaining to the number of allotted  
14 positions for the police department.

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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)]

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HB 531 Original

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Dustin Miller

**Abstract:** Authorizes the Opelousas police chief to discipline police personnel.

Present law, applicable to most Lawrason Act municipalities, provides that the elected police chief makes recommendations to the mayor and board of alderman regarding the appointment, promotion, discipline, and dismissal of police personnel. Provides that the mayor and alderman are responsible for taking these actions with regard to police personnel.

Proposed law, applicable to Opelousas, provides that the police chief disciplines police personnel, not including termination, subject to the budgetary limitations of the mayor and board of alderman pertaining to the number of allotted positions.

(Adds R.S. 33:423.28)