

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 589

BY SENATOR LAFLEUR

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. Provides relative to the Evangeline-Ville Platte Recreation District.  
(8/1/12)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4562.3(D) and to enact R.S. 33:4562.3(F) and (G), relative to the Evangeline-Ville Platte Recreation District; to remove certain requirements relative to the district's budget; to provide for district's authority and duties; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:4562.3(D) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 33:4562.3(F) and (G) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4562.3. Evangeline-Ville Platte Recreation District; creation; boundaries; objects and purposes; governing authority; powers

\* \* \*

D. The district is declared to be a political subdivision of the state with all the rights and powers thereof to levy taxes, incur debt, and issue bonds, subject to the approval of the parish governing authority and approval by a majority of the electors of the district voting at an election called by the parish governing authority and held for such purposes. The district may exercise all powers granted by law to recreation

1 districts created pursuant to R.S. 33:4562 et seq.; ~~however, the district shall annually~~  
 2 ~~submit to the governing authority of the parish a budget for its operations and capital~~  
 3 ~~expenditures during the ensuing year, and the governing authority may approve or~~  
 4 ~~disapprove such budget. Upon approval of the budget the district shall proceed to act~~  
 5 ~~thereunder.~~

6 \* \* \*

7 **F. For the first thirty-six months of operation, all revenue generated by**  
 8 **the assets of the district shall be dedicated to the operation and maintenance of,**  
 9 **equipment for, and improvements to the district.**

10 **G. The district, acting through its board of commissioners, shall**  
 11 **specifically have the following authority and duties:**

12 **(1) To hire a director and such other personnel as may be necessary to**  
 13 **carry out the directions and instructions of the board and perform such other**  
 14 **acts as may be directed by the board.**

15 **(2) To develop and implement a utilization policy for the assets of the**  
 16 **district that supports the use of the assets by the residents of the district and**  
 17 **limits the times at which access to the assets are restricted for private or**  
 18 **exclusive functions.**

19 **(3) To adopt and implement a schedule for fees, rental, or service charges**  
 20 **for the use of district assets for private or exclusive functions.**

21 **(4) To adopt and implement a policy regarding all revenue generated by**  
 22 **the assets of the district, including concession sales, the sale of space for signage,**  
 23 **and the reservation of ball parks.**

24 **(5) To develop and deliver recreational programming and enrichment**  
 25 **activities that encourage the use of the district's assets by residents of the**  
 26 **district.**

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The original instrument was prepared by Dawn Romero Watson. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Linda Nugent.

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#### DIGEST

LaFleur (SB 589)

Present law creates the Evangeline-Ville Platte Recreation District whose boundaries are the city limits of Ville Platte and additional territory within the parish as determined by the Evangeline Parish Police Jury. Requires the district to annually submit to the police jury a budget for its operations and capital expenditures for the ensuing year. Provides that the police jury may approve or disapprove the budget. Provides that upon approval of the budget, the district may proceed to act thereunder.

Proposed law removes present law requirement of submission to, and approval of, the budget by the police jury.

Proposed law requires that for the first 36 months of operation, all revenue generated by the assets of the district be dedicated to operation and maintenance of, equipment for, and improvements to the district.

Proposed law provides that the district, acting through its board of commissioners, will have the following authority and duties:

1. To hire staff.
2. To develop and implement a utilization policy for assets of the district that encourages use of the assets by the residents and limits the times of restricted access.
3. To adopt and implement a schedule for fees, rental, or service charges for the use of the district's assets.
4. To adopt and implement a policy regarding all revenue generated by the assets of the district.
5. To develop and deliver recreational programming and enrichment activities that encourage the use of the district's assets by the residents.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 33:4562.3(D); adds R.S. 33:4562.3(F) and (G))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Adds provisions regarding the authority and duties of the district.

##### Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Clarifies that for the first 36 months of operation, all revenue generated inures to the benefit of the district.