

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 44

BY REPRESENTATIVE HORTON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

RETIREMENT/FIREFIGHTERS: Provides relative to the board of trustees of the Firefighters' Retirement System

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2260(A)(2) and (6), relative to the Firefighters' Retirement System; to provide for membership on the system's board of trustees; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:2260(A)(2) and (6) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2260. Administration

A. Board of trustees:

* * *

(2)(a) The board shall consist of ~~ten~~ twelve trustees as follows:

(a) (i) Two members of the Professional Fire Fighters Association, who ~~shall be~~ are members of the system, and who shall be elected by a majority of the officers of the association, ~~as follows:~~

(i) ~~One member shall be elected in December, 1988, to take office January 1, 1989, to serve until January 1, 1992, and his successor shall be elected for a term of five years, commencing on January 1, 1992.~~

1 (ii) ~~One member shall be elected in December, 1988, to take office January~~
2 ~~1, 1989, to serve until January 1, 1993, and his successor shall be elected for a term~~
3 ~~of five years, commencing on January 1, 1993.~~

4 (b) (ii) ~~A fire chief who is chief of a fire department participating in the~~
5 ~~system and who is a member of the system, shall be elected in December, 1988 by~~
6 ~~a majority of the fire chiefs of fire departments participating in the system, to take~~
7 ~~office January 1, 1989, to serve until January 1, 1991, and his successor shall be~~
8 ~~elected for a term of five years, commencing on January 1, 1991. Two members of~~
9 ~~the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association who are members of the system shall be~~
10 ~~elected by a majority of the officers of the association.~~

11 (c) (iii) Two mayors shall be appointed by the Louisiana Municipal
12 Association from municipalities having fire departments participating in the system;
13 to serve at the pleasure of the Louisiana Municipal Association.

14 (d) (i) (iv)(aa) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed
15 by the speaker, or the member's designee.

16 (f) (b) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement, or his
17 designee.

18 (e) (v) ~~A retiree~~ Two retirees of the system; who shall be elected by a
19 majority vote of the ~~members of the board from at least three nominees submitted~~
20 ~~by the retired members and beneficiaries~~ of the system; ~~for a term of five years,~~
21 ~~commencing on January 1, 1989.~~

22 (f) (vi) The state treasurer or his designee.

23 (g) (vii) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

24 (b) The term of a trustee elected pursuant to Item (a)(i), (ii), or (v) of this
25 Paragraph is five years.

26

* * *

27 (6) Each trustee shall be entitled to one vote on the board. An affirmative
28 vote by ~~at least five~~ a majority of the members of the board of trustees shall be
29 necessary for a decision by the trustees at any meeting of the board. The phrase

1 "affirmative vote" shall mean that the vote shall be cast in favor of approving any
2 motion.

3 * * *

4 Section 2.(A) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of R.S. 11:2260(A)(2) in
5 effect on June 30, 2023, any member of the Firefighters' Retirement System board of trustees
6 who is serving on June 30, 2023, may complete his term.

7 (B) Elections for additional members of the Firefighters' Retirement System board
8 of trustees pursuant to R.S. 11:2260(A)(2)(a)(ii) and (v) as provided by this Act shall be
9 conducted by October 1, 2023. The terms of trustees elected in such elections begin on
10 September 1, 2024.

11 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
12 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
13 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
14 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
15 effective on the day following such approval.

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 44 Engrossed 2023 Regular Session Horton

Abstract: Provides for membership on the board of trustees of the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS).

Present law provides that FRS is governed by a board of trustees comprised of 10 members. Proposed law increases the number of trustees to 12.

Present law provides that one trustee is a fire chief elected by the fire chiefs. Proposed law provides for two such trustees.

Present law provides that one trustee is a system retiree selected by the board from nominations submitted by system retirees. Proposed law provides for two retirees to be elected by retired members and beneficiaries of the system.

Proposed law retains present law regarding the remaining members:

- (1) Two trustees are members of the Professional Fire Fighters Assoc. selected by the association's officers.

- (2) Two mayors appointed by the La. Municipal Assoc.
- (3) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed by the speaker, or the member's designee and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement, or his designee.
- (4) The state treasurer or his designee.
- (5) The commissioner of administration or his designee.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 11:2260(A)(2) and (6))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill:

1. Remove proposed law that provides for:
 - (a) Five retired firefighters elected to the board from geographic districts.
 - (b) An active firefighter elected to the board by active members.
 - (c) A surviving spouse elected to the board by the retirees and spouses of deceased members.
 - (d) Removal of current members of the board.