

## SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 497

2024 Regular Session

Miguez

**KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

ETHICS. Provides for selection of members to the Board of Ethics. (8/1/24)

**SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL**

1. Increases from 11 to 15 the membership on the Board of Ethics.  
 Board members appointed by the governor increased from 7 to 9.  
 Board members elected by the senate increased from 2 to 3.  
 Board members elected by the house increased from 2 to 3.
2. Quorum of members to conduct board business increased to majority.

**DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

## DIGEST

SB 497 Reengrossed

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Present law provides that membership on the Bd. of Ethics is composed of 11 members: seven members appointed by the governor; two members elected by the House of Representatives; and two members elected by the Senate.

Proposed law increases the membership of the board from 11 to 15 members and that consideration be given to the demographics of the population of the state, including without limitation geography, gender, and race, when making their selection.

Present law provides the following procedure in which the governor's appointments and the members elected by legislature are to be made.

- (1) A nominating committee composed of presidents of the colleges and universities that are member institutions of the La. Assoc. of Independent Colleges and Universities, or its successor, submits names of no fewer than five different eligible nominees for each position or vacancy to the governor, Senate, or House of Representatives, whichever is appropriate. Requires that due consideration be given to the demographics of the population of the state, including without limitation geography, gender, and race. A majority vote of the membership of the nominating committee is required to nominate persons to a position.
- (2) Requires that the governor's appointments and the election by members of the Senate and House of Representatives occur no later than 60 days after the receipt of the names of the nominees. Provides a procedure if the governor fails to make an appointment or if the Senate or House of Representatives fails to elect a member.

Proposed law removes this nominating procedure for board appointments.

Present law provides that the governor appoint, from the nominees submitted, 7 members representative of the state's population with one member appointed from each congressional district. Requires that at least three members have been licensed to practice law in the state for at least eight years.

Proposed law increases the governor's appointments to the board from 7 to 9 members with at least five members have been licensed to practice law in the state for at least eight years.

Present law provides that two members be elected by the House of Representatives. Proposed law increases this from 2 to 3 members elected by the house.

Present law provides that two members be elected by the Senate. Proposed law increases this from 2 to 3 members elected by the senate.

Present law requires that any vacancy on the board be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the original term.

Proposed law retains this requirement.

Present law provide that six member constitutes a quorum of the board.

Proposed law provides that a majority of the membership of the board constitutes a quorum.

Present law provides that nine members of the board are required to conduct business.

Proposed law provides that eleven members of the board are required to conduct business.

Proposed law provides that the term of office of the addition members shall begin on January 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 42:1132(B)(1), 1133(A), and 1142(A)(3); Repeals R.S. 42:1132(B)(2))

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Division Director