

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE BILL NO. 54

BY REPRESENTATIVE MICKEY GUILLORY

HOUSING/AUTHORITIES: Requires a local housing authority to enter into an employment contract with the executive director of the housing authority

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:539(C)(1), relative to local housing authorities; to provide  
3 relative to the executive director of a local housing authority; to require a local  
4 housing authority to enter into an employment contract with the executive director;  
5 to provide relative to the term of the contract; to provide relative to the compensation  
6 of the executive director and other terms of employment; and to provide for related  
7 matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 40:539(C)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §539. Selection of chairman and vice chairman; executive director; hiring of  
11 employees

12 \* \* \*

13 C.(1) The authority shall select a secretary who shall be the executive  
14 director and chief executive and administrative officer of the authority. ~~He shall~~  
15 ~~serve at the pleasure of the authority. The authority shall fix the compensation of the~~  
16 ~~executive director.~~The authority shall enter into an employment contract with the  
17 executive director for a term not to exceed five years. The employment contract  
18 shall fix the compensation of the executive director and such other terms of  
19 employment as the authority may determine.

20 \* \* \*

21 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
22 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
3 effective on the day following such approval.

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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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Mickey Guillory

HB No. 54

**Abstract:** Requires a local housing authority to enter into an employment contract with the executive director of the housing authority rather than employ an executive director to serve at the pleasure of the authority.

Present law generally authorizes the governing body of each municipality and parish which has not established a local housing authority prior to Aug. 15, 1997, to create, by resolution, a local housing authority. Provides generally that any local housing authority established prior to Aug. 15, 1997, shall have continued existence.

Present law generally requires the chief elected official of the municipality or parish, or if no such official exists, then the governing body itself, to appoint five persons who shall constitute the governing body of the local housing authority.

Present law generally requires the mayor of the municipality or the governing body of the parish, as the case may be, to designate the first chairman of the municipal or parish authority. Requires the authority to thereafter select a chairman from among its commissioners. Additionally requires the authority to select a vice chairman from its commissioners.

Present law requires every regional or consolidated housing authority to elect a chairman from among its commissioners. Authorizes the commissioners to select any other officers which the authority requires.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the authority to select a secretary who shall be the executive director and chief executive and administrative officer of the authority.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the authority. Requires the authority to fix the compensation of the executive director.

Proposed law provides instead that the authority shall enter into an employment contract with the executive director for a term not to exceed five years. Provides that the employment contract shall fix the compensation of the executive director and such other terms of employment as the authority may determine.

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

(Amends R.S. 40:539(C)(1))