

**ORDINANCE NO. JO-051-2025**

**A JOINT ORDINANCE OF THE LAFAYETTE CITY COUNCIL AND THE  
LAFAYETTE PARISH COUNCIL AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. JO-003-2024  
REGARDING THE REMOVAL OF A MEMBER OF A BOARD OR COMMISSION BY  
THAT MEMBER’S APPOINTING AUTHORITY DUE TO THE MEMBER’S LACK OF  
ATTENDANCE**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council, that:

**WHEREAS**, the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council recognize and acknowledge the important work performed by the various boards and commissions within the jurisdiction of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government (“LCG”), the City of Lafayette, and/or the Parish of Lafayette; and

**WHEREAS**, this important work requires an appointed member of a board or commission to attend certain meetings of said board or commission and is frustrated when a member is unable or unwilling to fulfill his or her responsibility and obligation to consistently attend and participate in said meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the failure of an appointed member of a board or commission to attend meetings of said board or commission diminishes the work of the board or commission by reducing the opportunity for more thoughtful discussion and consideration of issues that come before such board or commission, and enhances the possibility that the board or commission might, in certain circumstances, lack a quorum as required to conduct business of the board or commission; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance No. JO-003-2024, LCG has previously established policy concerning the attendance of members appointed to various boards and commissions within its jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, for those boards and commissions within LCG’s jurisdiction whose rules and/or policies and procedures do not contain minimum attendance standards, the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council desire to set forth such certain minimum attendance standards applicable to the members of these boards and commissions and establish, as a consequence for failing to meet these minimum attendance standards, the possible removal of said member by the appropriate appointing authority, while also providing for exemptions and an appeal process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** by the Lafayette City Council and Lafayette Parish Council, that:

**SECTION 1:** All of the aforementioned “Whereas” clauses are adopted as part of this joint ordinance.

**SECTION 2:** For those boards and commissions within LCG's jurisdiction whose rules and/or policies and procedures do not contain minimum attendance standards, and unless otherwise provided by state law, any member of a board or commission who misses three (3) consecutive meetings of his or her board or commission shall be subject to possible removal by the appropriate appointing authority. Prior to the removal of said member for lack of attendance, the appropriate appointing authority shall send written notice, via U.S. First Class certified or registered mail, to the member apprising the member of potential removal.

**SECTION 3:** Notwithstanding Section 2 of this joint ordinance, a member shall not be subject to removal if the absences are due to *bona fide* reasons beyond the member's control, including but not limited to medical conditions, military service or orders, or other exceptional circumstances as determined by the appointing authority in its sole discretion.

**SECTION 4:** Any member receiving notice of potential removal under Section 2 shall be entitled to request, in writing, an appeal before the appropriate appointing authority within ten (10) days of receipt of such notice. The appointing authority shall provide an opportunity for the member to present justification for his or her absences and shall render a decision within 30 days of receiving the appeal. The appointing authority's decision shall be final.

**SECTION 5:** Nothing in this joint ordinance shall be construed to: (i) require "cause" for the removal of a member of a board or commission where "cause" is not required under any rules and/or policies and procedures of a board or commission and/or applicable law; or (ii) prohibit the appointing authority from removing a member of a board or commission for any other lawful reason or basis.

**SECTION 6:** Consistent with Section 2 of this joint ordinance, the provisions of this joint ordinance shall be applicable regardless of whether said board or commission is within the jurisdiction of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government, the City of Lafayette, or the Parish of Lafayette.

**SECTION 7:** All ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 8:** After first having been adopted by a majority of the authorized membership of both the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council, this joint ordinance shall become effective upon signature of this joint ordinance by the Lafayette Mayor-President, or the lapse of ten (10) days after receipt by the Lafayette Mayor-President without signature or veto, or upon override of a veto, whichever occurs first.

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