

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 341

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY LANDRY

A RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to conduct a study of how justice of the peace courts handle eviction proceedings and how structure of the courts, funding, and procedures impact fairness and outcomes for tenants and landlords.

WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts are statutorily authorized by R.S. 13:2586 and have concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts in all civil matters; and

WHEREAS, there are three-hundred ninety justice of the peace courts in this state; and

WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts operate under different and more limited procedural protections for litigants than the district courts; and

WHEREAS, legal training of individuals holding judgeships, including ethics, conflicts of interest, and continuing education, should be required to ensure qualification for the duties they perform; and

WHEREAS, evictions carry significant social and economic consequences; and

WHEREAS, financial incentives, including the filing fees received and retained by the justice of the peace courts from eviction proceedings, could lead to higher evictions and a bias for landlords; and

WHEREAS, a discussion regarding the operations of these courts, the training provided, the audit of operations, the method of funding, and related expenditures is necessary; and

WHEREAS, a study by the Louisiana State Law Institute is necessary to provide data and recommendations to the legislature to develop potential reforms that improve fairness, transparency, and consistency in eviction proceedings.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to conduct a study of how justice of the peace courts handle eviction proceedings and how structure of the courts, funding, and procedures impact fairness and outcomes for tenants and landlords, and to provide a report to the legislature no later than February 1, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to the Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES