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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry G. Jones.

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SB 186 Original

DIGEST  
2020 Regular Session

Harris

Present law provides relative to the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans, consisting of eight judges in Divisions A through H. Also provides that effective at midnight on December 31, 2020, the judgeship created for Division H is abolished. If a vacancy by death, resignation, retirement, or removal occurs in any other division of the court prior to December 31, 2020, the judgeship in that division shall be abolished instead of the judgeship in Division H.

Proposed law provides that the court shall consist of eight judgeships through December 31, 2020, consisting of judges in Divisions A through H. Thereafter it shall consist of seven judgeships. Division H and the judgeship for Division H shall be abolished December 31, 2020, effective at midnight. The other divisions shall remain unchanged as previously designated Divisions A through G. Also provides that a vacancy in Divisions A through G shall be filled by election to that division.

Present law provides that each judge shall preside over a separate and distinct division of the court. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that each judge shall be an attorney-at-law elected by the qualified electors of the parish of Orleans. Each judge shall not be less than 30 years of age. Each judge shall have practiced law in the state for at least eight years preceding his election and shall be domiciled in the parish of Orleans for at least two years prior to his election. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the judges in Divisions A through D shall not engage in the practice of law nor share in the profits, directly or indirectly, of any law firm or legal corporation, and shall receive a salary equal to a district judge but not more salary paid, from all sources, to the district court judges in and for the parish of Orleans. Proposed law extends these requirements to include Division E.

Present law provides similar requirements for the judge in Division F beginning at midnight on December 31, 2023 and for the judge in Division G beginning at midnight on December 31, 2024. Proposed law changes beginning date for Division G to December 31, 2030, and retains remainder of present law.

Present law provides that the most senior judge of the court serve as the administrative judge of the court. Provides that he shall receive a salary equal to the salary paid to district court judges in and for Orleans Parish. Also provides that the governing authority of Orleans Parish shall determine the salary paid to the administrative judge, of which the amount payable by the state to city judges of the state shall be paid by the state and the remainder shall be payable by the city of New Orleans. Proposed law provides that the administrative judge shall receive a salary equal to a district judge but not more salary paid, from all sources, to the district court judges in and for the parish of Orleans, of which the amount payable by the state to city judges of the state shall be paid by the state and the

remainder shall be payable by the city of New Orleans.

Present law provides there shall be one clerk of the court. Provides that the clerk's salary shall be determined and set by the judges of the court en banc. The salary shall be the same and shall be paid from the consolidated judicial expense fund of the court. Proposed law provides that the salary and benefits of the clerk shall be paid by the city of New Orleans on the warrant of the administrative judge. If the city fails to pay the salary and benefits, they may be paid from the consolidated judicial expense fund of the court.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:2492 and 2495)