2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 53

BY REPRESENTATIVES JEFFERSON AND MCFARLAND

JUDGES: Provides relative to the election of judges for the 2nd JDC

1   AN ACT

2   To amend and reenact R.S. 13:621.2 and to repeal Act No. 669 of the 1999 Regular Session

3   of the Legislature, relative to the election of judges for the Second Judicial District;

4   to eliminate the requirement that judges reside in a specific parish of the Second

5   Judicial District; to require judges of the Second Judicial District Court to be elected

6   at large from the Second Judicial District; and to provide for related matters.

7   Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8   Section 1. R.S. 13:621.2 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9   §621.2. Second judicial district

10   The Second Judicial District Court shall have three judges who shall be

11   elected at large from the Second Judicial District for six-year terms. The Second

12   Judicial District Court shall be comprised of Division A in Claiborne Parish,

13   Division B in Jackson Parish, and Division C in Bienville Parish. A judge elected

14   to serve in the Second Judicial District shall reside within the district but is not

15   required to reside within the parish where the division is located.

16   Section 2. Act No. 669 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Legislature is hereby

17   repealed in its entirety.

18   Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not

19   signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

20   by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

2 effective on the day following such approval.

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)]

HB 53 Reengrossed   2020 Regular Session   Jefferson

Abstract: Eliminates the requirement that the judges of the 2nd Judicial District Court reside in the parish where the Division is located.

Present law provides for three district court judges in the Second Judicial District Court to be elected from the district at large for six-year terms.

Proposed law retains the present law provision for the election of judges from the district at large for six-year terms, but eliminates the requirement that the judge who presides over Division "A" be a resident of Claiborne Parish, that the judge who presides over Division "B" be a resident of Jackson Parish, and that the judge who presides over Division "C" be a resident of Bienville Parish.

Proposed law retains the uncodified provision of present law with regard to the composition of the Second Judicial District and proposed law provides that Division A shall be located in Claiborne Parish, Division B shall be located in Jackson Parish, and Division C shall be located in Bienville Parish.

Proposed law requires the judge elected to serve in the Second Judicial District to reside within the district but proposed law does not require that the judge elected to serve reside within the parish where the division is located.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:621.2; Repeals Act No. 669 of the 1999 R.S.)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

    The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

    1.   Add an effective date based on the signature of the governor.

    The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

    1.   Provide for the location of each division.

    2.   Require the judge elected to serve to reside within the district.

    3.   Provide that the judge elected to serve is not required to reside within the parish in which the division is located.