
DIGEST

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HB 738 Original

2022 Regular Session

Duplessis

Abstract: Provides for the redistricting of the state's supreme court and provides for the composition of seven supreme court districts. Effective on Jan. 1, 2023.

Statistical summaries of proposed law including maps illustrating proposed district boundaries accompany this digest. *(Attached to the bill version on the internet.)*

Present constitution (Const. Art. V, §3) provides the supreme court must be composed of a chief justice and six associate justices.

Present constitution (Const. Art. V, §4) provides the state must be divided into at least six supreme court districts, and at least one judge shall be elected from each. Further provides the districts and the number of judges assigned to each on the effective date of the constitution are retained, subject to change by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Proposed law redraws district boundaries for the seven supreme court districts and assigns each justice in office on Jan. 1, 2023 to a district.

Proposed law repeals present law that provides for an additional judgeship for the Court of Appeal for the Fourth Circuit who is assigned to the La. Supreme Court.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts identified as Voting Districts (VTDs) in the 2020 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the state of La. as validated through the data verification program of the La. legislature. Also specifies that if any such precinct has been subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with present law, the enumeration of the general precinct designation shall include all nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof. Further provides that the territorial limits of the districts as enacted shall continue in effect until changed by law regardless of any subsequent change made to the precincts by the parish governing authority.

Population data in the summaries accompanying this digest are derived from 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171), Summary File for Louisiana. Population data, statistical information, and maps are supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part of proposed law.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023.

(Adds R.S. 13:101.2 and 101.3; Repeals R.S. 13:101, 101.1, and 312.4)