

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 218

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

COURTS: Provides with respect to the selection of the chief judge for the City Court of Baton Rouge

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:1878(A), relative to city courts; to provide relative to local  
3 rules of court; to provide relative to determining the chief judge of a city court; and  
4 to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 13:1878(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §1878. Declaration of candidates for office; determination of chief judge

8 A.(1) Where a city court is composed of more than two divisions, a  
9 candidate for nomination and election to the office of judge of the city court, at the  
10 time of filing his declaration as a candidate, shall designate the division of the court  
11 for which he is a candidate. The judge oldest in point of continuous service shall be  
12 the chief judge, except that when they have served continuously the same length of  
13 time, the judge oldest in years shall be the chief judge.

14 (2) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall supersede any  
15 local rules of court establishing procedures for the determination of the chief or  
16 administrative judge of a city court.

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**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)]

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HB 218 Original

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Marcelle

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the selection of the chief judge or administrative judge for city courts.

Present law requires that where a city court is composed of two or more divisions, a candidate for nomination and election to the court, at the time of filing his declaration as a candidate, shall designate the division of the court for which he is a candidate. Provides that the judge oldest in point of continuous service shall be the presiding judge, except that when they have served continuously the same length of time, the judge oldest in years shall be the presiding judge.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the laws of this state relative to determining the chief judge of city courts shall supersede local rules of court selecting a chief judge or administrative judge for a city court.

(Amends R.S. 13:1878(A))