

SENATE BILL NO. 142

BY SENATOR CARTER

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

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:981.1, relative to district courts; to provide for the appointment of official and deputy reporters in certain instances; to provide for qualifications, duties, and responsibilities; to provide for fees; to provide for bond; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:981.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§981.1. Court reporter shortage**

**A. (1) Notwithstanding R.S. 37:2556(A)(1), the judges of a district court, acting en banc, may declare a shortage of available certified court reporters in their district. Upon such a declaration and for the duration of the shortage, a judge of that district may appoint as an official or deputy court reporter a court reporter who is properly licensed in another state.**

**(2) Prior to engaging in duties as a certified official or deputy reporter as provided in Subsection B of this Section, the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters shall have five days after receipt of both the letter of appointment and a completed application for waiver of regular examination, as provided in R.S. 37:2554(B)(1), to approve or reject the application. The out-of-state reporter shall not engage in duties as a certified official or deputy reporter until the expiration of the five-day period allotted for the review.**

**(3) Upon the expiration of the five-day period, the board shall recognize the reporter's appointment as effective, unless it was rejected as provided by Paragraph (2) of this Section.**

1 B. A court reporter appointed in accordance with Subsection A of this

2 Section shall:

3 (1) Have the same duties and responsibilities as provided for other  
4 official and deputy reporters in this Part for the specific district court.

5 (2) Be entitled to the same fees paid in the same manner as provided for  
6 other official and deputy reporters in this Part for the specific district court.

7 (3) Be paid a salary, take an oath, and provide a bond as provided for  
8 other reporters in this Part for the specific district court and Chapter 1 of this  
9 Title.

10 (4) Perform duties under the supervision and direction of the district  
11 court judge to whom the reporter is assigned.

12 (5) Complete a reciprocal application for certification with the Louisiana  
13 Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters in accordance with the  
14 provisions of R.S. 37:2554.

15 (6) Not perform duties as a free-lance reporter.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_