
DIGEST

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HB 15 Original

2024 First Extraordinary Session

Wilford Carter

Abstract: Provides for the redistricting of the state's supreme court and provides for the composition of seven supreme court districts. Effective upon signature of governor for all purposes.

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 to a district.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts contained in the file named "2024 Precinct Shapefiles (01-10-2024)" available on the legislature's website. The 2023 Precinct Shapefiles are based upon those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2020 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the State of La. as those files have been modified and validated through the data verification program of the La. House of Representatives and the La. Senate to represent precinct changes submitted through Jan. 10, 2024, to the Legislature of La. by parish governing authorities.

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 La. Population data, statistical information, and maps are supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part

of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that the new districts become effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

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