

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 124

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREIBERG

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

JUDGES/DISTRICT: Provides for the election of judges to the 19th Judicial District Court

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:477(19) and 621.19 and to repeal Section 5(E) of Act No. 145
3 of the 1994 Third Extraordinary Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to
4 the Nineteenth Judicial District Court; to provide for the election sections from
5 which judges are elected; to reduce the number of election sections; to provide for
6 the assignment of judgeships to election sections; to provide for a judgeship to be
7 elected at-large; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 13:477(19) and 621.19 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
10 follows:

11 §477. Judicial districts

12 There shall be forty-one judicial districts in the state and each district shall
13 be composed as follows:

14 * * *

15 (19) The parish of East Baton Rouge shall compose the Nineteenth District.

16 The Nineteenth District shall consist of ~~three~~ two election sections. Election section
17 one shall consist of Precincts ~~INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX, INDUSTRIAL~~
18 ~~COMPLEX A, INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX B, 1-1, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-10,~~
19 ~~1-11, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23, 1-24, 1-25,~~
20 ~~1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 1-31, 1-32, 1-37, 1-38, 1-40, 1-44, 1-45, 1-46, 1-50,~~

1 ~~1-51, 1-58, 1-61, 1-62, 1-63, 1-67, 1-68, 1-77, 1-84, 1-85, 1-86, 1-91, 1-92, 1-94,~~
2 ~~1-95, 1-100, 1-101, 2-16, 2-20, and 2-23~~ 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7, 1-9, 1-10,
3 1-11, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23, 1-24, 1-25,
4 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 1-31, 1-32, 1-36, 1-37, 1-38, 1-44, 1-45, 1-46, 1-50,
5 1-51, 1-52, 1-53, 1-54, 1-55, 1-58, 1-60, 1-61, 1-62, 1-63, 1-67, 1-68, 1-70, 1-71,
6 1-72, 1-76, 1-77, 1-78, 1-81, 1-82, 1-83, 1-84, 1-85, 1-86, 1-87, 1-88, 1-91, 1-92,
7 1-93, 1-94, 1-95, 1-96, 1-97, 1-100, 1-101, 1-102, 1-104, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-9,
8 2-10, 2-11, 2-12, 2-13, 2-14, 2-15, 2-16, 2-17, 2-19, 2-20, 2-22, 2-23, 2-24, 2-25,
9 2-27, 2-30, 2-31, 3-8, 3-11, 3-24, 3-27, 3-28, 3-32, 3-42, 3-54, and 3-72 of East
10 Baton Rouge Parish. Election section two shall consist of Precincts ~~1-9, 1-52, 1-53,~~
11 ~~1-54, 1-55, 1-60, 1-70, 1-71, 1-72, 1-78, 1-81, 1-82, 1-83, 1-87, 1-88, 1-93, 1-97, 2-1,~~
12 ~~2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-7, 2-8, 2-9, 2-10, 2-11, 2-12, 2-13, 2-14, 2-15, 2-17, 2-18,~~
13 ~~2-21, 2-22, 2-24, 2-25, 2-26, 2-26A*, 2-26B*, 3-1, 3-2, 3-6, 3-8, 3-9, 3-12, 3-14,~~
14 ~~3-24, 3-25, 3-26, 3-28, 3-30, and 3-32~~ 1-8, 1-12, 1-33, 1-34, 1-35, 1-39, 1-40, 1-41,
15 1-42, 1-43, 1-47, 1-48, 1-49, 1-56, 1-57, 1-59, 1-64, 1-65, 1-66, 1-69, 1-73, 1-74,
16 1-75, 1-79, 1-80, 1-89, 1-90, 1-98, 1-99, 1-103, 1-105, 1-106, 1-107, 2-6, 2-7, 2-8,
17 2-18, 2-21, 2-26, 2-28, 2-29, 2-32, 2-33, 2-34, 2-35, 2-36, 2-37, 2-38, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3,
18 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 3-9, 3-10, 3-12, 3-13, 3-14, 3-15, 3-16, 3-17, 3-18, 3-19, 3-20,
19 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-25, 3-26, 3-29, 3-30, 3-31, 3-33, 3-34, 3-35, 3-36, 3-37, 3-38,
20 3-39, 3-40, 3-41, 3-43, 3-44, 3-45, 3-46, 3-47, 3-48, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53,
21 3-55, 3-56, 3-57, 3-58, 3-59, 3-60, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65, 3-66, 3-67, 3-68,
22 3-69, 3-70, 3-71, 3-73, 3-74, 3-75, and 3-76 of East Baton Rouge Parish. Election
23 section three shall consist of Precincts ~~1-2, 1-12, 1-33, 1-34, 1-35, 1-36, 1-39, 1-41,~~
24 ~~1-42, 1-43, 1-47, 1-48, 1-49, 1-56, 1-57, 1-59, 1-64, 1-65, 1-66, 1-69, 1-73, 1-74,~~
25 ~~1-75, 1-76, 1-79, 1-80, 1-89, 1-90, 1-96, 1-98, 1-99, 1-102, 1-103, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-7,~~
26 ~~3-10, 3-11, 3-13, 3-15, 3-16, 3-17, 3-18, 3-19, 3-20, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-27, 3-29,~~
27 ~~3-31, 3-33, 3-34, 3-35, 3-36, 3-37, and 3-38~~ of East Baton Rouge Parish.

* * *

1 §621.19. Nineteenth Judicial District

2 The Nineteenth Judicial District Court shall have fifteen judges. ~~Five~~ Seven
3 judges shall be elected from election section one, ~~five~~ seven judges shall be elected
4 from election section two, and ~~five judges shall be elected from election section three~~
5 one judge shall be elected at large. The judgeships designated as Divisions C, D, E,
6 F, J, K, and O are assigned to election section one; the judgeships designated as
7 Divisions A, G, H, I, L, M, and N are assigned to election section two; and the
8 judgeship designated as Division B shall be elected at large.

9 Section 2. Section 5(E) of Act No. 145 of the 1994 Third Extraordinary Session of
10 the Legislature of Louisiana is hereby repealed.

11 Section 3. (A) The precincts referenced in this Act are those contained in the file
12 named "2025 Precinct Shapefiles (01-16-2025)" available on the Legislature of Louisiana's
13 website on the effective date of this Section. The 2025 Precinct Shapefiles are based upon
14 those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2020 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line
15 Shapefiles for the State of Louisiana as those files have been modified and validated through
16 the data verification program of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the Louisiana
17 Senate to represent precinct changes submitted through January 16, 2025, to the Legislature
18 of Louisiana by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:532 and
19 532.1.

20 (B) When a precinct referenced in this Act has been subdivided by action of the
21 parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish
22 governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with the provisions of R.S.
23 18:532.1, the enumeration in this Act of the general precinct designation shall include all
24 nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof, however such subdivisions may be
25 designated.

26 (C) The territorial limits of the districts as provided in this Act shall continue in
27 effect until changed by law regardless of any subsequent change made to the precincts by
28 the parish governing authority.

1 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
5 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 124 Original

2025 Regular Session

Freiberg

Abstract: Reapportions election sections for the 19th Judicial District Court, provides for two election sections, and for one judge to be elected at large.

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

Present law provides that the 19th Judicial District Court is comprised of East Baton Rouge Parish. Provides that the 19th Judicial District Court has 15 judges.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the 19th Judicial District Court shall consist of three election sections, each election section electing five judges.

Proposed law instead provides that the court shall consist of two election sections, each election section electing seven judges, and one judge elected at large.

Present law (Act 145 of the 1994 3rd E.S. and Act 198 of the 2001 R.S.) provides that each judgeship be designated as a division, and that each division be assigned to one election section as follows:

1. Election Section 1: Divisions B, D, J, K, and O
2. Election Section 2: Divisions A, G, L, M, and N
3. Election Section 3: Divisions C, E, F, H, and I

Proposed law instead provides that the divisions be assigned to election sections as follows:

1. Election Section 1: Divisions C, D, E, F, J, K, and O
2. Election Section 2: Divisions A, G, H, I, L, M, and N

Proposed law further provides that the judgeship designated as Division B shall be elected at large.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts contained in the file named "2025 Precinct Shapefiles (01-16-2025)" available on the legislature's website. Provides that the 2025 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. 16, 2025, to the Legislature of La. by parish governing authorities.

Proposed law 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.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:477(19) and 621.19; Repeals §5(E) of Act No. 145 of 1994 3rd Ex. Sess.)

Plan Statistics

Plan: HLS 25RS-212 (Freiberg)

| <u>Districts:</u> | <u># of Members</u> | <u>Actual Population</u> | <u>Ideal Population</u> | <u>Absolute Deviation</u> | <u>Relative Deviation</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Election Section1 | 1 | 209,600 | 228,390 | -18,790 | -8.227% |
| Election Section2 | 1 | 247,181 | 228,390 | 18,791 | 8.228% |
| Grand Total: | 2 | 456,781 | 456,780 | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|--|
| Ideal Population Per Member: | 228390 | | | |
| Number of Districts for Plan Type: | 2 | | | |
| Range of District Populations: | 209,600 | to | 247,181 | |
| Absolute Mean Deviation: | 18,790 | | | |
| Absolute Range: | -18,790 | to | 18,791 | |
| Absolute Overall Range: | 37,581 | | | |
| Relative Mean Deviation: | 8.23% | | | |
| Relative Range: | -8.23% | to | 8.23% | |
| Relative Overall Range: | 16.46% | | | |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Ideal - Actual:</i> | <i>-1</i> |
| <i>Remainder:</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Unassigned Population:</i> | <i>0</i> |

Total Population

Plan: HLS 25RS-212 (Freiberg)

| | Total Population | Total White | Total Black | Total Asian | Total American Indian | Total Other | Total Hispanic | VAP Total | VAP White | VAP Black | VAP Asian | VAP American Indian | VAP Other | VAP Hispanic Total |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Election Section1 | 209,600 | 40,667 | 151,624 | 5,736 | 1,340 | 10,233 | 12,240 | 162,270 | 37,048 | 112,160 | 4,654 | 1,107 | 7,301 | 8,766 |
| | 100.000% | 19.402% | 72.340% | 2.737% | 0.639% | 4.882% | 5.840% | 100.000% | 22.831% | 69.119% | 2.868% | 0.682% | 4.499% | 5.402% |
| Election Section2 | 247,181 | 155,402 | 61,774 | 10,689 | 3,387 | 15,929 | 18,311 | 193,342 | 126,833 | 44,630 | 7,945 | 2,640 | 11,294 | 12,773 |
| | 100.000% | 62.870% | 24.991% | 4.324% | 1.370% | 6.444% | 7.408% | 100.000% | 65.600% | 23.083% | 4.109% | 1.365% | 5.841% | 6.606% |
| Grand Total | 456,781 | 196,069 | 213,398 | 16,425 | 4,727 | 26,162 | 30,551 | 355,612 | 163,881 | 156,790 | 12,599 | 3,747 | 18,595 | 21,539 |
| | 100.000% | 42.924% | 46.718% | 3.596% | 1.035% | 5.727% | 6.688% | 100.000% | 46.084% | 44.090% | 3.543% | 1.054% | 5.229% | 6.057% |

Voter Registration

Plan: HLS 25RS-212 (Freiberg)

| | Reg Total Dec 2024 | Reg White Dec 2024 | Reg Black Dec 2024 | Reg Other Dec 2024 | Reg Dem Total Dec 2024 | Reg Rep Total Dec 2024 | Reg Other Total Dec 2024 |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Election Section1 | 109,872 | 19,815 | 83,871 | 6,186 | 72,024 | 10,344 | 27,504 |
| | 67.709% | 18.035% | 76.335% | 5.630% | 65.553% | 9.415% | 25.033% |
| Election Section2 | 158,397 | 111,912 | 35,161 | 11,324 | 48,891 | 64,737 | 44,769 |
| | 81.926% | 70.653% | 22.198% | 7.149% | 30.866% | 40.870% | 28.264% |
| Grand Total | 268,269 | 131,727 | 119,032 | 17,510 | 120,915 | 75,081 | 72,273 |

Splits

Plan: HLS 25RS-212 (Freiberg)

| | Total Population | Total White | Total Black | Total Asian | Total American Indian | Total Other | VAP Total | VAP White | VAP Black | VAP Asian | VAP American Indian | VAP Other | Reg Total Dec 2024 | Reg White Dec 2024 | Reg Black Dec 2024 | Reg Other Dec 2024 |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Election Section1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *East Baton Rouge | 209,600 | 40,667 | 151,624 | 5,736 | 1,340 | 10,233 | 162,270 | 37,048 | 112,160 | 4,654 | 1,107 | 7,301 | 109,872 | 19,815 | 83,871 | 6,186 |
| Election Section1 | 209,600 | 40,667 | 151,624 | 5,736 | 1,340 | 10,233 | 162,270 | 37,048 | 112,160 | 4,654 | 1,107 | 7,301 | 109,872 | 19,815 | 83,871 | 6,186 |
| | 100.000% | 19.402% | 72.340% | 2.737% | 0.639% | 4.882% | 100.000% | 22.831% | 69.119% | 2.868% | 0.682% | 4.499% | 67.709% | 18.035% | 76.335% | 5.630% |
| Election Section2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *East Baton Rouge | 247,181 | 155,402 | 61,774 | 10,689 | 3,387 | 15,929 | 193,342 | 126,833 | 44,630 | 7,945 | 2,640 | 11,294 | 158,397 | 111,912 | 35,161 | 11,324 |
| Election Section2 | 247,181 | 155,402 | 61,774 | 10,689 | 3,387 | 15,929 | 193,342 | 126,833 | 44,630 | 7,945 | 2,640 | 11,294 | 158,397 | 111,912 | 35,161 | 11,324 |
| | 100.000% | 62.870% | 24.991% | 4.324% | 1.370% | 6.444% | 100.000% | 65.600% | 23.083% | 4.109% | 1.365% | 5.841% | 81.926% | 70.653% | 22.198% | 7.149% |

