

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 149

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

COURTS/JUSTICE OF PEACE: Directs the La. State Law Institute to study the justice of peace courts in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to conduct a study of the justice
3 of the peace and city courts in the state, including their jurisdiction, the costs and
4 savings for their operations, the need for their continued existence, and the process
5 necessary to abolish the courts.

6 WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts are statutorily authorized by R.S. 13:2586
7 and have concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts in all civil matters; and

8 WHEREAS, there are three-hundred ninety justices of the peace in Louisiana; and

9 WHEREAS, city courts are established by special legislative Act and also have
10 concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts in all civil matters; and

11 WHEREAS, city courts are located in forty-eight cities in the state; and

12 WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts have been abolished in wards where city
13 courts exist; and

14 WHEREAS, information regarding the costs and savings associated with the
15 operation of both courts is essential to a determination of whether both courts are necessary;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the method for abolition of either or both courts would be necessary to
18 advise the legislature on potential legislation.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute
21 to conduct a study of the justice of the peace and city courts in the state of Louisiana,

1 including their jurisdiction, the costs and savings for their operations, the need for their
2 continued existence, and the process necessary to abolish the courts and to provide
3 recommendations to the legislature no later than February 1, 2026.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit
5 one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to the Resolution
6 to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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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Directs the La. State Law Institute to conduct a study of the justice of the peace and city courts in the state of Louisiana, including their jurisdiction, the costs and savings for their operations, the need for their continued existence, and the process necessary to abolish the courts, and to provide recommendations to the legislature no later than Feb. 1, 2026.