
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 1097 Original

2026 Regular Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Reapportions election sections for the 19th Judicial District Court, provides for three election sections, five judges elected from each election section.

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 court shall consist of two election sections, each election section electing seven judges, and one judge elected at large.

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

Present law provides that each judgeship be designated as a division and assigns each division to one election section as follows:

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

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

Proposed law instead provides that the divisions be assigned to election sections 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 specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts contained in the file named "2026 Precinct Shapefiles (01-27-2026)" available on the legislature's website. The

2026 Precinct Shapefiles are based on 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. 27, 2026, 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 Louisiana. Population data, statistical information, and maps are supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part of proposed law.

Population data in the summaries accompanying the enrolled bill available on the internet 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 new law.

Effective upon signature of governor.

(Amends R.S. 13:477(19) and 621.19)