

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

SB 86

2017 Regular Session

Perry

Present law provides that district attorneys serve as the regular attorneys and counsel for the police juries within their respective districts. However, present law does not prevent or prohibit the governing authorities of the parishes of St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, Ouachita, Morehouse, Calcasieu, and Vermilion from each employing or retaining its own attorney to represent it generally. Present law provides that the employment of attorneys by the governing authorities relieve the district attorneys of the judicial districts serving the respective parishes from any further duty of representing the governing authorities.

Proposed law would have retained present law.

Proposed law further would have provided that present law did not prevent or prohibit the governing authority of any parish having a population of not less than 60,000 nor more than 70,000 persons based upon the most recent federal decennial census or not less than 6,000 nor more than 7,000 based upon the most recent federal decennial census from employing or retaining its own attorneys to represent it generally. Proposed law would have provided that the district attorney of the judicial district serving the parish is relieved from any further duty of representing the governing authority.

Would have become effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Would have amended R.S. 16:2(B) and R.S. 42:261(F))

**VETO MESSAGE:** "Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 86 of the 2017 Regular Session. Generally, district attorneys provide legal counsel for certain legal entities within their respective districts. The parishes of St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, Ouachita, Morehouse, Calcasieu, and Vermilion have relieved the district attorneys in the judicial districts of their respective parishes from this duty and have employed or retained their own attorneys. SB 86 sought to include Acadia Parish as an exception to this general arrangement with the district attorney, and was amended to include Cameron Parish. I have exercised my veto authority due to the fact that, as a result of the amendment, there was less opportunity for public comment from those impacted on an issue of particularly local concern."