

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 221

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEFANSKI

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:441(A)(5), relative to mayor's courts; to provide relative to the jurisdiction  
3 of mayor's courts; to provide relative to the collection of municipal utility debts; to  
4 provide relative to court costs; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 33:441(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §441. Mayor's court

9 A.

10 \* \* \*

11 (5)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a mayor's  
12 court shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the district court of civil suits to collect  
13 utility debts within the municipality, where the good faith amount in dispute does  
14 not exceed five thousand dollars, exclusive of penalties, interest, court costs, attorney  
15 fees and penalties, whether provided by agreement or by law. The jurisdiction  
16 granted by this Paragraph shall be limited to suits to collect utility debts owed to the  
17 municipality or to a utility system owned or operated by the municipality.

18 (b) If the demand asserted in a good faith original, amended or supplemental  
19 pleading, cross claim, or in any good faith incidental demand or any other pleading,  
20 exceeds the jurisdiction of the court, the court shall transfer the action to a court of  
21 proper jurisdiction.

22 (c) Upon request of the mayor, the board of alderman shall appoint one or  
23 more attorneys who shall be designated as a court magistrate to hear all civil utility



1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
3 effective on the day following such approval.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_