The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michael Bell.

DIGEST

SB 163 Original 2021 Regular Session McMath

Present constitution provides that the supreme court shall be composed of a chief justice and six associate justices, four of whom must concur to render judgment.

Proposed constitutional amendment increases the composition of the Louisiana Supreme Court from six associate justices to eight, five of whom must concur to render judgment.

Proposed constitutional amendment mandates the legislature to set forth the specific method of transitioning to nine single member districts.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that no supreme court justice in office at the time of the adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment, nor his or her successor, shall, as a result of this amendment, have their term diminished or extended.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires the legislature to redistrict each supreme court district to be as equal as practicable on the basis of population shown by the census at the end of the year following the year in which the population of this state is reported to the president of the United States.

Proposed constitutional amendment mandates redistricting of the supreme court in accordance with Article III, Section 6(B) if the legislature fails to do so as required by proposed constitutional amendment.

Provides that if the amendment is approved by the voters, it shall become effective on January 1, 2025.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at a statewide election to be held on October 9, 2021.

(Amends Const. Arts. V, Sec. 3 and 4)