
The original instrument was prepared by J. W. Wiley. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST

SB 15 Reengrossed

2022 First Extraordinary Session

Hewitt

Present constitution (Const. Art. V, §3) provides the supreme court must be composed of a chief justice and six associate justices.

Present constitution (Const. Art. V, §4) provides the state must be divided into at least six supreme court districts, and at least one judge shall be elected from each. Further provides the districts and the number of judges assigned to each on the effective date of this constitution are retained, subject to change by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Proposed law redraws district boundaries for the seven Supreme Court districts.

Proposed law provides the district boundaries will be effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action for the purposes of qualifying for election and the election of a member of the Supreme Court from District 6 at the regularly scheduled election for such office in 2022.

Proposed law provides that each justice in office on January 1, 2023, be the justice for the district having the same designation as the district from which the justice was elected and shall complete the term for which he was elected. Provides that the successor to the office of justice of the supreme court be elected from the district assigned to that office as provided in proposed law and that election be from the district composed as provided by R.S. 13:101.2.

Proposed law provides for subsequent elections of members of the Supreme Court and for all other purposes an effective date of January 1, 2023, at which time present law is repealed and proposed districts are effective for all other purposes.

Proposed law repeals present law that provides for an additional judgeship for the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit who is assigned to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts identified as Voting Districts (VTDs) in the 2020 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the state of La. as validated through the data verification program of the La. legislature. 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 without change 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.

(Adds R.S. 13:101.2 and 101.3; repeals R.S. 13:101, 101.1, and 312.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Makes technical changes to district boundaries.

Senate Floor Amendments to reengrossed bill

1. Clarifies assignment of districts for justices of the supreme court.