

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 662

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

JUDGES/DISTRICT: Provides relative to the Judicial Council

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:61(E), relative to the Judicial Council; to provide relative to
3 the review of judicial districts and appellate circuits; to provide for annual reporting;
4 to provide relative to judgeships; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 13:61(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §61. Judicial Council

8 * * *

9 E. The Judicial Council shall have the authority to conduct ~~a~~ an annual
10 review of judicial districts and appellate circuits and ~~not later than March 1, 2007,~~
11 shall provide information and recommendations to the legislature on the appropriate
12 number of district and appellate court judgeships within each district or circuit based
13 upon caseload, population, or other pertinent factors, including the findings and
14 recommendations of the Judicial Structure Task Force established by House
15 Resolution No. 30 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature. The
16 recommendations may include proposed revisions to specific constitutional or
17 statutory language addressing the number of such judges in each district or circuit,
18 the need for district or circuit merger or other actions, and the filling of judicial
19 office vacancies in such district or circuit.

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 662 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Requires the Judicial Council to conduct an annual review of judicial and appellate court judgeships.

Present law provides for the Judicial Council of the supreme court. Provides that the Judicial Council shall adopt standards to determine whether to approve new judgeships and courts.

Present law provides that the Judicial Council is authorized to review the district court judgeships within each district and provide information and recommendations to the legislature by March 1, 2007.

Proposed law changes present law by removing the March 1, 2007, deadline and by requiring the Judicial Council to provide information and recommendations to the legislature regarding the appropriate number of district and appellate court judgeships.

Proposed law provides that the Judicial Council may base its recommendations to the legislature on the findings of the Judicial Structure Task Force established by House Resolution No. 30 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature.

(Amends R.S. 13:61(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Add language that references the Judicial Structure Task Force established by House Resolution No. 30 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature.