

SENATE BILL NO. 142

BY SENATOR CARTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:981.1, relative to district courts; to provide for the appointment of official and deputy reporters in certain instances; to provide for qualifications, duties, and responsibilities; to provide for fees; to provide for bond; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:981.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§981.1. Court reporter shortage

A. (1) Notwithstanding R.S. 37:2556(A)(1), the judges of a district court, acting en banc, may declare a shortage of available certified court reporters in their district. Upon such a declaration and for the duration of the shortage, a judge of that district may appoint as an official or deputy court reporter a court reporter who is properly licensed in another state.

(2) Prior to engaging in duties as a certified official or deputy reporter as provided in Subsection B of this Section, the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters shall have five days after receipt of both the letter of appointment and a completed application for waiver of regular examination, as provided in R.S. 37:2554(B)(1), to approve or reject the application. The out-of-state reporter shall not engage in duties as a certified official or deputy reporter until the expiration of the five-day period allotted for the review.

(3) Upon the expiration of the five-day period, the board shall recognize the reporter's appointment as effective, unless it was rejected as provided by Paragraph (2) of this Section.

1 **B. A court reporter appointed in accordance with Subsection A of this**

2 **Section shall:**

3 **(1) Have the same duties and responsibilities as provided for other**
4 **official and deputy reporters in this Part for the specific district court.**

5 **(2) Be entitled to the same fees paid in the same manner as provided for**
6 **other official and deputy reporters in this Part for the specific district court.**

7 **(3) Be paid a salary, take an oath, and provide a bond as provided for**
8 **other reporters in this Part for the specific district court and Chapter 1 of this**
9 **Title.**

10 **(4) Perform duties under the supervision and direction of the district**
11 **court judge to whom the reporter is assigned.**

12 **(5) Complete a reciprocal application for certification with the Louisiana**
13 **Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters in accordance with the**
14 **provisions of R.S. 37:2554.**

15 **(6) Not perform duties as a free-lance reporter.**

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____