

---

## 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 59 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Marcelle

**Abstract:** Provides for the funding of the district public defender in the 19th Judicial District Court.

Proposed law provides that, in addition to any funding provided by the office of the state public defender, the district public defender's office for the 19th JDC is entitled to an expense allowance for the salaries of certain staff and employees and an expense allowance for certain expenses incurred in the discharge of their official duties.

Proposed law authorizes East Baton Rouge Parish to pay a sum of not less than \$1,000,000 from its general fund for any of the items of expense incurred by the district public defender when acting in his official capacity.

Proposed law relative to the authorized payments from East Baton Rouge Parish's general fund for district public defender expenses terminates on July 1, 2028.

(Adds R.S. 15:161.1)

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

#### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Authorize East Baton Rouge Parish to pay a sum of not less than \$1,000,000 from its general fund for any expenses incurred by the district public defender when acting in his official capacity.
2. Remove proposed law that requires the expenses of the district public defender to be borne proportionately by the parish and each city, as determined by the respective governing authorities.
3. Provide that the authorized payments from East Baton Rouge Parish's general fund for district public defender expenses terminates on July 1, 2028.
4. Make technical changes.