

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 708

BY REPRESENTATIVE VENTRELLA

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:2602 and to enact R.S. 13:2586(C)(9), relative to justice of the peace court districts and jurisdiction in East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for jurisdiction over evictions for justice of the peace courts in East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for concurrent jurisdiction with the city courts of East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for district boundaries of the justice of the peace courts in East Baton Rouge Parish; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:2602 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:2586(C)(9) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2602. Territorial jurisdiction of the justice of the peace courts of East Baton Rouge Parish

~~A. The territorial jurisdiction of the several justice of the peace courts within the parish of East Baton Rouge, as they exist on the effective date of this Section, shall continue and shall not be diminished or otherwise changed by reason of the annexation into any municipality within the parish of all or any part of the area comprising such territorial jurisdiction of a justice of the peace court.~~

The territorial jurisdiction of the justice of the peace districts and courts in East Baton Rouge Parish shall be as follows:

(1) District 1 is composed of Precincts 2-5, 2-14, 2-15, 2-18, 2-21, 2-26, 2-28, 2-29, 2-32, 2-34, 2-35, 2-36, 2-37, and 2-38 of East Baton Rouge Parish.

(2) District 2 is composed of Precincts 2-6, 2-7, 2-8, and 2-33 of East Baton Rouge Parish.



1 §2586. Jurisdiction and procedure

2 \* \* \*

3 C.(1)

4 \* \* \*

5 (9) A justice of the peace court in East Baton Rouge Parish shall, within its  
6 territorial jurisdiction, have concurrent jurisdiction with the city court of East Baton  
7 Rouge Parish over suits by landowners or lessors for the eviction of occupants or  
8 tenants of leased residential or commercial premises and leased farmlands where the  
9 amount of the monthly rental does not exceed five thousand dollars, regardless of the  
10 amount of rent due or the rent for the unexpired term of the lease.

11 \* \* \*

12 Section 2.(A) The precincts referenced in this Act are those contained in the file  
13 named "2026 Precinct Shapefiles (01-27-2026)" available on the website of the Legislature  
14 of Louisiana on the effective date of this Section. The 2026 Precinct Shapefiles are based  
15 upon those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2020 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line  
16 Shapefiles for the State of Louisiana as those files have been modified and validated through  
17 the data verification program of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the Louisiana  
18 Senate to represent precinct changes submitted through January 27, 2026, to the Legislature  
19 of Louisiana by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:532 and  
20 532.1.

21 (B) When a precinct referenced in this Act has been subdivided by action of the  
22 parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish  
23 governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with the provisions of R.S.  
24 18:532.1, the enumeration in this Act of the general precinct designation shall include all  
25 nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof, however such subdivisions may be  
26 designated.

27 (C) The territorial limits of the districts as provided in this Act shall continue in  
28 effect until changed by law regardless of any subsequent change made to the precincts by  
29 the parish governing authority.

1           Section 3. Each justice of the peace court in East Baton Rouge Parish shall retain  
2 jurisdiction over any matter properly filed with the court on or before the effective date of  
3 this Act.

4           Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
8 effective on the day following such approval.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_