

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 76

BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED WILLIAMS

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

REAPPORTIONMENT/JUDGES: Provides for the election sections for the City Court of Baton Rouge and for the number of judges elected from such sections

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:1952(4), relative to the City Court of Baton Rouge; to provide
3 for the composition of the election sections; to provide for the number of judges
4 elected from each election section; to provide for the assignment of divisions to each
5 election section; to provide relative to the assignment of certain annexations to
6 election sections; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 13:1952(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1952. Courts created by special legislative Act

10 The following city courts, heretofore created and established by special
11 legislative Act, are hereby recognized and continued in existence and, except as
12 otherwise provided in this Section, their territorial jurisdiction shall extend through
13 the city and ward or wards wherein the city in which they are domiciled is located,
14 as extended from time to time:

15 * * *

16 (4)(a) The City Court of Baton Rouge, domiciled in the city of Baton Rouge,
17 parish of East Baton Rouge, having five city judges and a city constable. The court
18 shall be divided into five divisions, namely, divisions "A", "B", "C", "D", and "E"
19 and its territorial jurisdiction shall extend throughout the territorial area of the city
20 of Baton Rouge as extended from time to time.

1 (b) For the purpose of electing judges, the court shall be divided into two
2 election sections.

3 (i) Election section one shall consist of ~~precincts: 1-1A, 1-1B, 1-3A, 1-3B,~~
4 ~~1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-8, 1-11, 1-13A, 1-13B, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23,~~
5 ~~1-24, 1-25, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-31A, 1-31B, 1-38A, 1-38B, 1-45, 1-46A, 1-46B,~~
6 ~~1-46C, 1-46D, 1-50A, 1-50B, 1-51A, 1-51B, 1-58A, 1-58B, 1-61, 1-67, 1-68, 1-84A,~~
7 ~~1-84B, 1-85A, 1-85B, 1-86A, 1-86B, 1-91, 1-92A, 1-92B, 1-93, 1-94A, 1-94B, 1-~~
8 ~~95A, 1-95B, 1-96A and 1-96B~~ the following precincts and parts of precincts
9 contained within the corporate limits of the city of Baton Rouge: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4,
10 1-5, 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-10, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17 (part), 1-18, 1-19, 1-21, 1-22,
11 1-23 (part), 1-24, 1-25, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 1-31, 1-32, 1-33, 1-36, 1-37,
12 1-38, 1-40, 1-41, 1-44, 1-45, 1-46, 1-48, 1-50, 1-51, 1-57, 1-58, 1-61, 1-62, 1-63, 1-
13 64, 1-67, 1-68, 1-70, 1-77 (part), 1-78, 1-82, 1-84 (part), 1-85 (part), 1-86, 1-91,
14 1-92, 1-93, 1-94, 1-95 (part), 1-100 (part), 1-101 (part), 1-102 (part), 1-104, 2-1
15 (part), 2-9 (part), 2-11 (part), 2-22 (part), 2-24 (part), 2-25 (part), 3-5 (part), 3-8
16 (part), 3-20(part), 3-24 (part), and 3-50 (part).

17 (ii) Election section two shall consist of ~~precincts: 1-7, 1-10, 1-14A, 1-14B,~~
18 ~~1-15A, 1-15B, 1-30, 1-32, 1-33, 1-34A, 1-34B, 1-35, 1-36A, 1-36B, 1-36C, 1-36D,~~
19 ~~1-37, 1-39, 1-40, 1-41, 1-42, 1-43, 1-44, 1-48A, 1-48B, 1-49A, 1-49B, 1-52A, 1-52B,~~
20 ~~1-53A, 1-53B, 1-53C, 1-53D, 1-54A, 1-54B, 1-55A, 1-55B, 1-56A, 1-56B, 1-57, 1-~~
21 ~~59, 1-60A, 1-60B, 1-62, 1-63, 1-64, 1-65, 1-69A, 1-69B, 1-71A, 1-71B, 1-71C, 1-~~
22 ~~71D, 1-72A, 1-72B, 1-72C, 1-73A, 1-73B, 1-74A, 1-74B, 1-74C, 1-75A, 1-75B, 1-~~
23 ~~75C, 1-75D, 1-76A, 1-76B, 1-76C, 1-76D, 1-78A, 1-78B, 1-79, 1-80, 1-81, 1-82A,~~
24 ~~1-82B, 1-82C, 1-82D, 1-83A, 1-83B, 1-87, 1-88A, 1-88B, 1-89, 1-90, 1-97, 1-98A,~~
25 ~~1-98B, 1-99A, 1-99B, and 1-99C~~ the following precincts and parts of precincts
26 contained within the corporate limits of the city of Baton Rouge: 1-9, 1-12, 1-34,
27 1-35, 1-39, 1-42, 1-43, 1-47, 1-49, 1-52, 1-53, 1-54, 1-55, 1-56, 1-59, 1-60, 1-65
28 (part), 1-66, 1-69, 1-71, 1-72, 1-73, 1-74, 1-75, 1-80 (part), 1-81, 1-83, 1-87, 1-88
29 (part), 1-89 (part), 1-90, 1-97 (part), 1-98, 1-99 (part), 1-103, 1-105 (part), 1-107

1 manner to decrease the term of any judge serving on the effective date of this Act or to
2 prohibit any judge from seeking reelection in any division of the court.

3 Section 3.(A) The precincts for the Parish of East Baton Rouge referenced in this
4 Act are those contained in the file named "2014 Precinct Shapefiles" published on the
5 Louisiana House of Representatives website. The 2014 Precinct Shapefiles are based upon
6 those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line
7 Shapefiles for the State of Louisiana as those files have been modified by the staff of the
8 Legislature of Louisiana to represent precinct changes submitted through August 13, 2014,
9 to the Legislature of Louisiana by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of
10 R.S. 18:532 and 532.1.

11 (B) When a precinct referenced in this Act has been subdivided by action of the
12 parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish
13 governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with the provisions of R.S.
14 18:532.1, the enumeration in this Act of the general precinct designation shall include all
15 nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof, however such subdivisions may be
16 designated. The territorial limits of the election sections as provided in this Act shall
17 continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the
18 parish governing authority. However, the territorial limits of the election sections may
19 change due to annexations as provided in R.S. 13:1952(4)(d).

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

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 76 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Alfred Williams

Abstract: Changes the election sections for the City Court of Baton Rouge and provides that three judges are elected from election section one and two judges are elected from election section two.

Present law provides for the City Court of Baton Rouge, domiciled in Baton Rouge and having five city judges and a city constable. Provides that the court is divided into five divisions, "A", "B", "C", "D", and "E" and its territorial jurisdiction shall extend throughout the territorial area of the city of Baton Rouge as extended from time to time. Provides for the purpose of electing judges, the court is divided into two election sections and that two judges (divisions "B" and "D") are elected in election section one and three judges (divisions "A", "C", and "E") are elected in election section two.

Proposed law changes the composition of election section one and election section two. Further, proposed law provides that three judges shall be elected from election section one and two judges shall be elected from election section two. Proposed law provides that divisions "B", "C", and "D" are assigned to election section one for election purposes and divisions "A" and "E" are assigned to election section two for election purposes.

Proposed law specifies that in addition to qualifications provided by law for a judge of the Baton Rouge City Court, a candidate for a judgeship elected by either election section need only be a resident of the city of Baton Rouge and that the provisions of proposed law shall not be construed in any manner to decrease the term of any judge serving on the effective date of proposed law or to prohibit any judge from seeking reelection in any division of the court.

Present law allows the metropolitan council for the city of Baton Rouge, parish of East Baton Rouge, to assign annexations which are approved subsequent to June 15, 1993, to the appropriate election section. Requires the metropolitan council to submit such assignment by certified mail or by hand delivery with receipt to the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs for approval. Provides that the committees have 45 days to determine, either jointly or separately, whether the assignment shall be approved or disapproved. Specifies that if the time period for action by the committees lapses without action by such committees, the assignment is deemed approved, and if one or both committees disapprove the assignment, such assignment is not effective for any purpose.

Proposed law provides for the assignment of annexations subsequent to Oct. 22, 2014, in accordance with present law, and otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions in proposed law are those contained in the file named "2014 Precinct Shapefiles" published on the La. House of Representatives website. Specifies that the 2014 Precinct Shapefiles are based upon those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the state of La. as those files have been modified by the staff of the legislature to represent precinct changes submitted through Aug. 13, 2014, to the legislature by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:532 and 532.1.

Proposed law additionally provides that when a precinct is subdivided on a nongeographic or geographic basis under present law (R.S. 18:532.1), the general precinct designation in

the district description includes all nongeographic and geographic subdivisions of the precinct within the corporate limits of Baton Rouge, and specifies that the territorial limits of the election sections as provided in proposed law shall continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the parish governing authority. Specifically excepts changes to the territorial limits made as provided in proposed law relative to annexations.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 13:1952(4))

Plan Statistics

DB: LA 2014 12
 Plan Type: Baton Rouge City Court

<u>Districts:</u>	<u># of Members</u>	<u>Actual Population</u>	<u>Ideal Population</u>	<u>Absolute Deviation</u>	<u>Relative Deviation</u>
District 1	3	134,301	137,694	-3,393	-2.464%
District 2	2	95,192	91,796	3,396	3.700%
Grand Total:	5	229,493	229,490		

Ideal Population Per Member:	45898		
Number of Districts for Plan Type:	2		
Range of District Populations:	95,192	to	134,301
Absolute Mean Deviation:	3,394		
Absolute Range:	-3,393	to	3,396
Absolute Overall Range:	6,789		
Relative Mean Deviation:	3.08%		
Relative Range:	-2.46%	to	3.70%
Relative Overall Range:	6.16%		

<i>Ideal - Actual:</i>	-3
<i>Remainder:</i>	3
<i>Unassigned Population:</i>	0

Note: Portions of East Baton Rouge Parish, including parts of Precincts 1-102, 3-5, 3-20, 3-35, 3-50, and 3-52 were annexed into the City of Baton Rouge post 2010 Census and are not reflected in the statistics in this report. Those parts of Precincts 1-102, 3-5, 3-20, and 3-50 are assigned to Election Section 1 in the proposed legislation. Those parts of Precincts 3-35 and 3-52 are assigned to Election Section 2 in the proposed legislation.

District Geography

	Total Population	Total White	Total Black	Total Asian	Total Other	VAP Total	VAP White	VAP Black	VAP Asian	VAP Other	Reg Total Dec 2014	Reg White Dec 2014	Reg Black Dec 2014	Reg Other Dec 2014	Reg Dem Total Dec 2014	Reg Rep Total Dec 2014	Reg Other Total Dec 2014
East Baton Rouge																	
District 1	134,301	33,995	95,018	3,568	1,303	103,274	30,874	67,923	3,080	1,043	72,532	15,331	54,603	2,591	49,056	7,163	16,308
	100.000%	25.313%	70.750%	2.657%	0.970%	100.000%	29.895%	65.770%	2.982%	1.010%	70.233%	21.137%	75.281%	3.572%	67.634%	9.876%	22.484%
District 2	95,192	56,353	31,724	4,550	2,125	74,713	47,342	22,025	3,421	1,572	57,423	38,269	15,860	3,289	23,480	19,821	14,110
	100.000%	59.199%	33.326%	4.780%	2.232%	100.000%	63.365%	29.479%	4.579%	2.104%	76.858%	66.644%	27.620%	5.728%	40.890%	34.518%	24.572%
East Baton Rouge	229,493	90,348	126,742	8,118	3,428	177,987	78,216	89,948	6,501	2,615	129,955	53,600	70,463	5,880	72,536	26,984	30,418
	100.000%	39.369%	55.227%	3.537%	1.494%	100.000%	43.945%	50.536%	3.653%	1.469%	73.014%	41.245%	54.221%	4.525%	55.816%	20.764%	23.407%

Note: Portions of East Baton Rouge Parish, including parts of Precincts 1-102, 3-5, 3-20, 3-35, 3-50, and 3-52 were annexed into the City of Baton Rouge post 2010 Census and are not reflected in the statistics in this report. Those parts of Precincts 1-102, 3-5, 3-20, and 3-50 are assigned to Election Section 1 in the proposed legislation. Those parts of Precincts 3-35 and 3-52 are assigned to Election Section 2 in the proposed legislation.