

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 82

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILFORD CARTER

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

REAPPORTIONMENT/JUDGES: Establishes election sections for the election of judges to the City Court of Lake Charles

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:1952(13), relative to the City Court of Lake Charles; to
3 provide for election sections for the election of judges to the court; to provide for
4 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

7 §1952. Courts created by special legislative Act

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

13 * * *

14 (13)(a) The City Court of Lake Charles, domiciled in the city of Lake
15 Charles, parish of Calcasieu, having two city judges and a city marshal;

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

18 (i) Election section one shall consist of Precincts 300, 301, 302, 303, 304,
19 305, 307, 308, 309E, 309W, 310, 311, 312, 313E, 313W, 315E, 316E, 317, 318,
20 319N, 319S, 320E, 320W, 321, 322, 323, 324, 327, 328, 329, 330, 361, 364, and

1 371N of Calcasieu Parish and that portion of Precinct 360 contained within Ward 3
2 of Calcasieu Parish.

3 (ii) Election section two shall consist of Precincts 306, 314, 315W, 316W,
4 325, 326, 331, 332N, 332S, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 362, 363, 365,
5 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371S and 372 of Calcasieu Parish.

6 (c) The judgeship designated as Division B shall be elected from election
7 section one, and the judgeship designated as Division A shall be elected from
8 election section two.

9 * * *

10 Section 2.(A) The precincts referenced in this Act are those contained in the file
11 named "2019 Precinct Shape files" published on the Louisiana House of Representatives
12 website. The 2019 Precinct Shape files are based upon those Voting Districts (VTDs)
13 contained in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shape files for the state of
14 Louisiana as those files have been modified by the staff of the Legislature of Louisiana to
15 represent precinct changes submitted through July 23, 2019, to the Legislature of Louisiana
16 by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:532 and 532.1.

17 (B) When a precinct referenced in this Act has been subdivided by action of the
18 parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish
19 governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with the provisions of R.S.
20 18:532.1, the enumeration in this Act of the general precinct designation shall include all
21 nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof, however such subdivisions may be
22 designated. The territorial limits of the election sections as provided in this Act shall
23 continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the
24 parish governing authority.

25 Section 3. Any election to elect a judge to the City Court of Lake Charles occurring
26 after the effective date of this Act shall be conducted within the appropriate election section
27 established by the provisions of Section 1 of this Act.

28 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
29 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
3 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 82 Original

2021 Regular Session

Wilford Carter

Abstract: Provides for the composition of two election sections in the City Court of Lake Charles and provides for the assignment of judgeships to those election sections for election purposes.

Present law provides that the City Court of Lake Charles is domiciled in the city of Lake Charles and that the territorial jurisdiction of the court extends through the city and ward or wards wherein the city is located, as extended from time to time. Provides that the court has two city judges and one city marshal. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law creates two election sections in the City Court of Lake Charles. Provides that one judge shall be elected by the qualified electors of election section one, and one judge shall be elected by the qualified electors of election section two. Provides that the judgeship designated as Division A of the City Court of Lake Charles is assigned to election section two for election purposes. Provides that the judgeship designated as Division B of the City Court of Lake Charles is assigned to election section one for election purposes. Specifies that any election to elect a judge to the court occurring after the effective date of proposed law shall be conducted within the appropriate election section established by proposed law.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions in proposed law are those contained in the file named "2019 Precinct Shape files" published on the La. House of Representatives website. Specifies that the 2019 Precinct Shape files are based upon those Voting Districts (VTDs) contained in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shape files for the state of La. as those files have been modified by the staff of the legislature to represent precinct changes submitted through July 23, 2019, to the legislature by parish governing authorities pursuant to the provisions of present law (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, 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.

Population data in the summaries accompanying this digest are derived from 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171), Summary File for Louisiana. Population data, statistical information, and maps are supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part of proposed law.

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

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