

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 358

BY REPRESENTATIVES BACALA, EDMONSTON, AND WILEY

JUDGES: Creates an additional judgeship for the 23rd Judicial District Court

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:621.23, relative to the Twenty-Third Judicial District Court;
3 to create an additional judgeship for the Twenty-Third Judicial District Court; to
4 provide for compensation of the additional judge; to provide for the election and
5 term of office of the additional judgeship and those of the successors in office; to
6 provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 13:621.23 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §621.23. ~~Twenty-third~~ Twenty-Third Judicial District

10 The ~~Twenty-third~~ Twenty-Third Judicial District Court shall have ~~five~~ six
11 judges. One judge shall be elected from election section one, and ~~four~~ five judges
12 shall be elected from election section two.

13 Section 2.(A) There is hereby created an additional district judgeship for the
14 Twenty-Third Judicial District for the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, and St. James.
15 The additional judge herein provided for and his successors shall preside over Division F,
16 which is hereby created for purposes of nomination and election only. The additional judge
17 and his successors shall be elected at large and shall have jurisdiction throughout the district
18 and shall receive the same compensation and expense allowances, payable from the same
19 sources and in the same manner, as are now or may hereafter be provided for other judges
20 of the district.

1 (B) The individual to be elected to the additional judgeship created by this Act for
2 the Twenty-Third Judicial District shall be elected as provided by Article V, Section 22 of
3 the Constitution of Louisiana, and shall serve a term which shall begin on the first January
4 first immediately following the effective date of this Act and which shall expire at the same
5 time as is provided by law for the other judges of the court. Thereafter, the successors to the
6 judge provided for in this Act for the Twenty-Third Judicial District shall be elected at the
7 same time and in the same manner and shall serve the same term as is now or may be
8 provided hereafter for other judges of the court.

9 Section 3.(A) The provisions of Sections 1 and 2 of this Act shall become effective
10 if and when a work point study by the National Center for State Courts is completed in
11 accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 39 of the 2024 Regular Session of the
12 Louisiana Legislature and the work point study concludes the additional district court
13 judgeship is necessary.

14 (B) The provisions of this Section shall become effective upon signature by the
15 governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become
16 law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the
17 Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the
18 legislature, the provisions of this Section shall become effective on the day following such
19 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 358 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Bacala

Abstract: Creates an additional judgeship for the 23rd Judicial District Court.

Present law provides for five judgeships in the 23rd Judicial District Court (Ascension, Assumption, and St. James Parishes).

Proposed law adds a 6th judgeship to the 23rd Judicial District Court. Proposed law also adds a new division to the 23rd Judicial District Court.

Proposed law provides for the judge and his successors to be elected at large, to have jurisdiction throughout the district, and receive the same compensation and expense allowances as other judges in the district.

Proposed law provides for the new judge to serve a term which begins on January 1st immediately following the effective date of the proposed law. Further provides for the judgeship to expire at the same time as provided in present law as other judges of the court.

Proposed law provides it shall become effective if and when a work point study by the National Center for State Courts is completed in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 39 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature and the work point study concludes the additional district court judgeship is necessary.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:621.23)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide for the jurisdiction of the additional judgeship.
2. Create a new division for the 23rd Judicial District.
3. Provide for election and term of the judge and his successors.
4. Provide for the compensation of the judge.
5. Provide for effectiveness.
6. Make technical changes.