

ACT No. 821

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 527

BY REPRESENTATIVE PEARSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:621.22 and to repeal Section 2 of Act No. 344 of the 2008
3 Regular Session, relative to the Twenty-Second Judicial District Court; to provide
4 for two additional judgeships and their respective subject matter jurisdictions; to
5 provide for the compensation relative to the additional judgeships; to provide for the
6 election and term of the offices and their successors; to provide for an effective date;
7 to repeal uncodified law; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 13:621.22 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §621.22. Twenty-Second Judicial District

11 A. The Twenty-Second Judicial District Court shall have twelve judges,
12 including the two additional judgeships created in Subsection B of this Section.

13 B. There are hereby created two additional district judgeships for the
14 Twenty-Second Judicial District for the parishes of St. Tammany and Washington.

15 (1) The first additional judge provided for in this Subsection and his
16 successors shall preside over Division K, which is hereby created for purposes of
17 nomination, election, and subject matter only. The subject matter jurisdiction of
18 Division K is limited, under the provisions of Article V, Section 15(A) of the
19 Constitution of Louisiana, to family and juvenile matters as provided by law.

20 (2) The second additional judge provided for in this Subsection and his
21 successors shall preside over Division L, which is hereby created for purposes of
22 nomination, election, and subject matter only. The subject matter jurisdiction of
23 Division L is limited, under the provisions of Article V, Section 15(A) of the
24 Constitution of Louisiana, to family and juvenile matters as provided by law.

1 (3) For purposes of this Subsection, "family and juvenile matters" shall
2 include all actions arising under Titles IV, V, and VII of Book I and Title VI of Book
3 III of the Louisiana Civil Code and related provisions of the Louisiana Civil Code
4 Ancillaries, all actions arising under the Louisiana Children's Code, adoptions arising
5 under the Louisiana Civil Code, actions involving protection from family violence
6 pursuant to R.S. 46:2131 et seq., and actions for enforcement, collection of support,
7 and paternity pursuant to R.S. 46:236.1.1 et seq.

8 (4) For purposes of this Subsection "juvenile matters" shall include but not
9 be limited to all actions arising under or incidental to the Louisiana Children's Code.

10 (5) For purposes of this Subsection, the subject matter jurisdiction shall also
11 include all actions incidental to all matters listed in Paragraphs (3) and (4) of this
12 Subsection, including but not limited to contempt, civil warrants, writs of habeas
13 corpus, curatorship, change of name, prenuptial or separate property agreements,
14 interspousal donations, lesions, and challenge to consent judgment.

15 C. The judges and their successors created by this Section shall be elected
16 as provided by Article V, Section 22 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and each shall
17 serve a term which shall begin on January 1, 2009, which shall expire at the same
18 time as is provided by law for the other judges of the court. Thereafter, each
19 successor to the judges provided for in this Section shall be elected at the same time
20 and in the same manner, and shall serve the same terms as now or may be provided
21 hereafter for other judges of the court.

22 D. The judges and their successors created by this Section shall have
23 jurisdiction throughout the district and receive the same compensation and expense
24 allowances, payable from the same sources and in the same manner, as are provided
25 for other judges of the Twenty-Second Judicial District.

26 E. The jurisdiction or term of office of any other judge of the district shall
27 not be affected or reduced by the creation of the judgeships.

28 Section 2. Section 2 of Act No. 344 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature
29 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

1 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be given prospective application and
2 include all actions taken by Divisions K and L of the Twenty-Second Judicial District Court.

3 Section 4. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof is held invalid, such
4 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given
5 effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this
6 Act are hereby declared severable.

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____