

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 598

BY REPRESENTATIVE FRANKLIN

REAPPORTIONMENT/JUDGES: Provides for election sections in 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 in the court; to provide for the assignment of judgeships  
4 for election purposes; to provide for the election of judges; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

8 §1952. Courts created by special legislative Act

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

14 \* \* \*

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

17 (b)(i) For the purpose of electing judges, the court shall be divided into two  
18 election sections. Election section one shall consist of Precincts 325, 326, 327, 330,  
19 331, 332N, 332S, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367N,  
20 367S, 368, 369, 370, 371N, and 371S of Calcasieu Parish. Election section two shall

1       consist of Precincts 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309E, 309W, 310,  
2       311, 312, 313E, 313W, 314, 315E, 315W, 316E, 316W, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321,  
3       322, 323, 324, 328, 329, 360, and 361 of Calcasieu Parish.

4               (ii) One judge shall be elected by the qualified electors of election section  
5       one, and one judge shall be elected by the qualified electors of election section two.

6                                       \*       \*       \*

7       Section 2.(A) The precincts referenced in this Act are those Voting Districts (VTDs)  
8       contained in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the Parish of  
9       Calcasieu in the State of Louisiana.

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

18       Section 3. The judgeship designated on the effective date of this Act as Division  
19       A of the City Court of Lake Charles is hereby assigned to election section two for election  
20       purposes. The judgeship designated on the effective date of this Act as Division B of the  
21       City Court of Lake Charles is hereby assigned to election section one for election purposes.

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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)]

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Franklin

HB No. 598

**Abstract:** Provides geographic boundaries for election sections in the City Court of Lake Charles and provides for the assignment of judgeships in those districts for election purposes.

Statistical summaries of proposed law as well as maps illustrating proposed district boundaries accompany this digest. (Attached to hard copies of the bill distributed during session and available as a separate document on the Internet.)

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 on the effective date of proposed law as Division A of the City Court of Lake Charles is assigned to election section two for election purposes. Provides that the judgeship designated on the effective date of proposed law as Division B of the City Court of Lake Charles is assigned to election section one for election purposes.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in election section descriptions are those precincts identified as Voting Districts (VTDs) in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the parish of Calcasieu in the state of La. Also specifies that if any such precinct has been subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with present law, the enumeration of the general precinct designation shall include all nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof. Further provides that the territorial limits of the election sections as enacted 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.

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