

2015 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 12

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

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

COURTS. Provides for locations of sessions of the 25th Judicial District Court. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:501, relative to courts and judicial procedure; to provide relative to district courts; to provide relative to sittings and sessions in certain judicial districts; to provide relative to sessions of the Twenty-Fifth Judicial District Court; to provide for certain locations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:501 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§501. Continuous sessions in districts of one parish

A. In districts composed of one parish, the judge shall hold court during ten months of the year and the session shall be continuous, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, for the trial of civil and criminal cases and disposition of all other matters that may be brought before the court. The judge, by rule of court, may fix the hours of the opening and adjournment of court, but the session shall not be fixed for less than five hours' duration each day.

B.(1) In the Seventeenth Judicial District, the court in civil cases may hold sessions of the court at a courthouse in Galliano, Louisiana.

(2) In the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District, the court may hold civil sessions

1 of the court in Jefferson Parish east of the Mississippi River.

2 **(3) In the Twenty-Fifth Judicial District, the court may hold sessions in**
3 **Belle Chasse as well as in Pointe a la Hache.**

4 ~~(3)~~**(4)**(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure
5 Article 762, in the Fortieth Judicial District, with the consent of a majority of the
6 judges of the district, each section of court may hold sessions of the court in
7 accordance with applicable rules of court and a schedule of sessions approved by a
8 majority of the judges of the Fortieth Judicial District in an appropriate public
9 building provided by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council or the law enforcement
10 district on the east bank of the Mississippi River to conduct the following
11 proceedings for offenses which occur or civil actions arising on the east bank of the
12 Mississippi River:

13 (i) Arraignments of misdemeanors and traffic tickets.

14 (ii) Trials of misdemeanors and traffic tickets for which the defendant is not
15 entitled to a trial by jury.

16 (iii) Arraignments of felony matters.

17 (iv) Contempt of court hearings and compliance hearings.

18 (v) Seventy-two hour appointment of counsel hearings pursuant to Code of
19 Criminal Procedure Article 230.1.

20 (vi) Hearings on all matters relating to misdemeanors and traffic offenses.

21 (vii) Civil and criminal motions and pretrial hearings.

22 (b) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not be construed so as to constitute
23 legislative approval of the removal, relocation, or disposal of the St. John the Baptist
24 Parish courthouse, nor legislative approval of any plan to remove, relocate, or
25 dispose of such courthouse.

26 (c) Repealed by Acts 2001, No. 559, §2.

27 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure Article
28 762, after August 15, 2003, in the Fortieth Judicial District, with the consent of all
29 of the judges of the district, each section of court may hold sessions of the court in

