

Regular Session, 2006

HOUSE BILL NO. 206

BY REPRESENTATIVES R. CARTER, M. POWELL, AND SMILEY

JUDGES: (Constitutional Amendment) Authorizes the legislature to create new judgeships for district courts with limited or specialized subject matter jurisdiction

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article V, Section 15(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to authorize
3 the legislature by law to establish new judgeships for district courts with the new
4 division having limited or specialized jurisdiction within the territorial jurisdiction
5 of the district court and subject matter jurisdiction as provided by law; to provide for
6 submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related
7 matters.

8 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
9 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
10 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
11 amend Article V, Section 15(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

12 §15. Courts; Retention; Jurisdiction; Judicial District Changes; Terms

13 Section 15.(A) Court Retention; Trial Courts of Limited Jurisdiction. The
14 district, family, juvenile, parish, city, and magistrate courts existing on the effective
15 date of this constitution are retained. Subject to the limitations in Sections 16 and
16 21 of this Article, the legislature by law may abolish or merge trial courts of limited
17 or specialized jurisdiction. The legislature by law may establish trial courts of
18 limited jurisdiction with parishwide territorial jurisdiction and subject matter
19 jurisdiction which shall be uniform throughout the state. Effective January 1, 2007,
20 the legislature by law may establish new judgeships for district courts and establish

1 the new divisions with limited or specialized jurisdiction within the territorial
 2 jurisdiction of the district court and subject matter jurisdiction as provided by law.

3 The office of city marshal is continued until the city court he serves is abolished.

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5 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
 6 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 7,
 7 2006.

8 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election
 9 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
 10 to vote FOR or AGAINST, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall
 11 read as follows:

12 To authorize the legislature to enact laws establishing new judgeships of
 13 district courts as new divisions having limited or specialized jurisdiction
 14 within the territorial jurisdiction of the district court and subject matter
 15 jurisdiction as provided by law. (Effective January 1, 2007) (Amends Article
 16 V, Section 15(A)).

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

R. Carter

HB No. 206

Abstract: Authorizes the legislature by law to establish new judgeships for district courts as new divisions having limited or specialized jurisdiction within the territorial jurisdiction of the district court and subject matter jurisdiction as provided by law.

Present constitution authorizes the legislature by law to abolish or merge trial courts of limited or specialized jurisdiction.

Present constitution authorizes the legislature by law to establish trial courts of limited jurisdiction with parishwide territorial jurisdiction and subject matter jurisdiction which shall be uniform throughout the state.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the legislature by law to establish new judgeships for district courts as new divisions having limited or specialized jurisdiction within the territorial jurisdiction of the district court and subject matter jurisdiction as provided by law.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 7, 2006.

Effective January 1, 2007.

(Amends Const. Art. V, §15(A))