

Regular Session, 2006

HOUSE BILL NO. 13

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREENE

JUDGES: Provides for the qualifications of office for judges

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article V, Section 24 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide for
3 the qualifications of office for judges of the supreme court, court of appeal, district
4 court, family court, parish court, or court having solely juvenile jurisdiction; to
5 provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; to provide for an
6 effective date; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

7 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
8 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
9 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
10 amend Article V, Section 24 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

11 §24. Judges; Qualifications

12 Section 24.(A) A judge of the supreme court, a court of appeal, district court,
13 family court, parish court, or court having solely juvenile jurisdiction shall have been
14 admitted to the practice of law in this state for at least ~~five~~ ten years prior to his
15 election and shall have been domiciled in the respective district, circuit, or parish for
16 the two years preceding election.

17 (B) He shall not practice law.

18 (C) This Section shall become effective on January 1, 2007, and shall be
19 applicable to any person who qualifies for election to the office of judge or who is
20 elected on or after January 1, 2007.

1 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
2 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 7,
3 2006.

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

8 To require that a person shall have been admitted to the practice of law in the
9 state of Louisiana for at least ten years prior to his election to the supreme
10 court, court of appeal, district court, family court, parish court, or court
11 having solely juvenile jurisdiction. Effective January 1, 2007, and applicable
12 to any person who qualifies for election to the office of judge or who is
13 elected on or after January 1, 2007. (Amends Article V, Section 24)

14 Section 4. Be it further resolved that the provisions of this Amendment shall become
15 effective on January 1, 2007, and shall be applicable to any person who qualifies for election
16 to the office of judge or who is elected on or after January 1, 2007.

DIGEST

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

Greene

HB No. 13

Abstract: Provides for the qualifications of office for a judge of the supreme court, court of appeal, district court, family court, parish court, or court having solely juvenile jurisdiction.

Present constitution requires that a judge of the supreme court, a court of appeal, district court, family court, parish court, or court having solely juvenile jurisdiction has been admitted to the practice of law in the state of La. for at least five years prior to his election.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the qualifications necessary to run for judicial office require that a person shall have been admitted to the practice of law in this state for at least 10 years prior to his election to the supreme court, court of appeal, district court, family court, parish court, or court having solely juvenile jurisdiction.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution that requires a judge to have been domiciled in his district, circuit, or parish for the two years preceding his election and prohibits a judge from practicing law.

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

Effective Jan. 1, 2007. Applicable to any person qualifying for election to the office of judge or who is elected on or after Jan. 1, 2007.

(Amends Const. Art. V, §24)