

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 13 by Representative Greene

JUDGES: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides for the qualifications of office for judges

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Increases the length of time a person must have been admitted to practice law in the state before being elected as a judge to an enumerated court from five years to ten years, as proposed in the original draft of HB 13.
2. Provides that these provisions shall not apply to any person who has served as a judge in a court of competent jurisdiction for five or more years.
3. Changes the date of the submission of the proposed amendment to the voters from November 7, 2006 to September 30, 2006.
4. Applies to any person who is elected to the office of judge on and after January 1, 2008.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

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

Proposed constitutional amendment increases such time requirement to 10 years.

Present constitution 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.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the requirement as to domicile in a district, circuit, or parish from two years to one year preceding his election.

Proposed constitutional amendment would provide that these provisions shall not apply to any person who has served as a judge in a court of competent jurisdiction for five or more years.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held September 30, 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, 2008.

(Amends Const. Art. V, §24)