DIGEST

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HB 69 Original

2020 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Eliminates the maximum age limitation for justices of the peace, implements a three-term limitation, and extends the term of office from six to 10 years.

<u>Present law</u> provides that beginning in the year 2008, to qualify to run for the office of justice of the peace a person shall not have attained the age of 70 years by the date of qualification to run for office.

<u>Present law</u> also provides that a justice of the peace who attains 70 years of age while serving a term of office shall be allowed to complete that term of office.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals the <u>present law</u> provision that, to qualify to run for the office of justice of the peace, a person shall not have attained the age of 70 years.

<u>Present law</u> requires each justice of the peace to be a resident of the ward and district from which elected and to be able to read and write the English language correctly.

<u>Present law</u> provides that justices of the peace shall be elected at the congressional election for terms of six years by the qualified voters within the territorial limits of their jurisdiction and shall take office on the first day of January following election.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but changes the term of office <u>from</u> six <u>to</u> 10 years for justices of the peace.

<u>Proposed law</u> prohibits a person from serving as justice of the peace for more than two and a half terms in three consecutive terms if the term of office begins on or after Jan. 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 13:2582(A) and (B))