

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 42

BY SENATOR MORRIS

COURTS. Provides for modernization of the judiciary. (8/1/24)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:35, 72.1, and 74, relative to courts and judicial procedure; to provide relative to the employment of certain attorneys, staff personnel, and related expenditures; to provide relative to the declaration of state law to other courts; to provide relative to the salary of the supreme court crier, and selection of the supreme court deputy crier; to provide for reassignment of certain responsibilities from the judicial commission to the supreme court; to provide certain rule making authority to the Louisiana supreme court; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:35, 72.1, and 74 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§35. Employment of attorneys, staff personnel, ~~etc.~~ **and other employees;**  
expenditures

The ~~commission~~ **supreme court** may employ and fix the duties and compensation of ~~such~~ **any** attorneys, staff personnel, and other employees, and may make ~~such~~ expenditures, including the payment of the fees of witnesses, as it finds necessary **for the commission** to accomplish its functions.



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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jonathon Wagner.

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DIGEST

SB 42 Original 2024 Regular Session Morris

Present law allows the La. judicial commission to employ and set the salaries of certain people it finds necessary for it to accomplish its functions.

Proposed law reassigns the La. judicial commission's authority to employ and set the salaries of certain people it finds necessary for it to accomplish its functions to the La. supreme court.

Present law allows the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. courts of appeal to certify questions or propositions of La. law to the La. supreme court, which the La. supreme court may answer by written opinion in matters where La. law may prove determinative of a case before the requesting court.

Proposed law allows the La. supreme court to answer questions or propositions of La. law submitted by courts of last resort of other states in the same manner as it does for the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. courts of appeal.

Present law allows the La. supreme court to collaborate with certain other courts for the purpose preparing, approving, and enacting uniform rules of court and similar laws.

Proposed law grants the La. supreme court limited rule making authority to facilitate collaboration with certain other courts for the purpose preparing, approving, and enacting uniform rules of court and similar laws.

Present law provides a salary of \$3,100 be paid from state funds per annum to the La. supreme court crier.

Proposed law deletes present law and allows the justices of the La. supreme court to designate one or more of its security personnel as a deputy crier and may direct that the deputy crier(s) be commissioned in the same manner as the sergeant at arms of the La. Senate.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 13:35, 72.1, and 74)