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## DIGEST

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HB 208 Original

2026 Regular Session

Robby Carter

**Abstract:** Requires a local option election in St. Helena Parish during the statewide election on Nov. 3, 2026, to determine whether the members of the governing authority of St. Helena Parish shall have term limits and, if adopted by a majority of the electors, imposes a term limit of three consecutive terms.

Present law (R.S. 33:1221) provides that in every parish governing authority in La. organized under the police jury system of government, including St. Helena Parish, police jurors shall be elected at the state general election and shall serve for terms of four years. Present law generally does not impose term limits on police jurors.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that at the statewide election to be held on Nov. 3, 2026, a proposition shall appear on the ballot in St. Helena Parish to determine whether the members of the governing authority of St. Helena Parish shall have term limits.

Proposed law provides for ballot language.

Proposed law provides that if the question of such term limitation is approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the proposition in the parish, then each member of the governing authority who at the end of a term of office on the governing authority will have served as a member of the governing authority for more than two and one-half terms in three consecutive terms, such service being during terms that began on or after Jan. 10, 2028, shall not be elected to the governing authority for the succeeding term. If a majority of the qualified electors voting on the proposition in the parish vote against such proposition, then no such term limitation shall apply.

Proposed law provides that the secretary of state shall prepare the ballot for the election and the election shall be conducted in accordance with the La. Election Code.

Present law requires the parish to pay a portion of the cost of an election when a local option election item is included on the ballot during a gubernatorial or congressional election. Proposed law instead provides that the costs of the election required pursuant to proposed law shall be borne by the state.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 33:1221.3)