
DIGEST

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HB 278 Original

2026 Regular Session

Edmonston

Abstract: Provides for audio-visual live streaming, remote public access to family court proceedings and status conferences and rules regarding custody and in chamber proceedings in The Family Court for East Baton Rouge Parish.

Proposed law requires that The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish provide for live streaming, public access to family court proceedings and status conferences no later than Jan. 1, 2027.

Proposed law requires the costs for upgrading the current internet system for The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish to be paid from funds in the Court Modernization and Technology Fund (R.S. 39:100.211).

Proposed law requires that matters in The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish be heard only in chambers for the testimony of a minor with all parties and counsel of record present.

Proposed law authorizes The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish to use a minor's initials or a pseudonym for custody matters.

Proposed law prohibits custody hearings in The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish from being closed to the public unless the judge determines that good cause exists based upon evidence submitted and all parties agree in writing and on the record.

Effective Jan. 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 13:1401.2 through 1401.5)