

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 197

BY SENATOR MORRIS

COURTS. Reduces number of judges on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. (2/3-CA5s9)
(8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:312.1(D), relative to judges on the court of appeal; to provide
3 for the number of judges on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal; to reduce the
4 number of judges serving on the fourth circuit; to provide for implementation of the
5 reduced number of judges; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:312.1(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §312.1. Circuit court of appeal; domicile; number of judges; election

9 * * *

10 D. The Court of Appeal for the Fourth Circuit, domiciled in the city of New
11 Orleans, shall have ~~twelve~~ **eight** judges. ~~Eight~~ **Five** judges shall be elected from the
12 first district of the fourth circuit by the qualified electors thereof. One judge shall be
13 elected from the second district by the qualified electors thereof. One judge shall be
14 elected from the third district by the qualified electors thereof. ~~Two judges~~ **One**
15 **judge** shall be elected from the circuit at large by the qualified electors thereof.

16 * * *

17 Section 2. No provision of this Act shall deprive any judge in office of the ability to

