
DIGEST

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HB 641 Original

2026 Regular Session

Carver

Abstract: Provides for the salaries of the assistant district attorneys and the operating budget of the office of the district attorney for the 22nd Judicial District.

Present law created the office of the assistant district attorney of the 22nd Judicial District.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the number of assistant district attorneys shall be set by law and that the district attorney shall appoint assistant district attorneys who shall serve at his pleasure.

Present law provides that the salary and compensation of the assistant district attorneys of the 22nd Judicial District shall be \$8,000 in addition to any salary provided by the state. The additional salary is divided equally between the parishes of St. Tammany and Washington. Further provides that in lieu of funding by the parishes, the additional salary may be paid from the criminal court funds of the parishes of St. Tammany and Washington when available.

Proposed law repeals present law and provides that the district attorney shall set the amount of the salaries of the assistant district attorneys and shall pay the salaries from the annual budgeted funds provided by the governing authorities of the parishes of the 22nd Judicial District.

Proposed law provides that the salary shall not be reduced once it is in effect for six months and shall be paid monthly on warrant of the district attorney.

Proposed law requires the parishes of the 22nd Judicial District to annually budget an amount sufficient to pay the salaries of the assistant district attorneys.

Proposed law provides for an operating budget for the payment of certain expenses of the district attorney. Provides that the expenses to be paid from the operating budget include but are not limited to:

- (1) Salaries of stenographers, clerks, administrators, secretaries, and investigators.
- (2) Salaries of assistant district attorneys, as provided in present law (R.S. 16:484).
- (3) Expenses for stationery, telephones, automobiles, office equipment, and office supplies.
- (4) Funds for matching federal grants, parochial retirement coverage for employees and

hospitalization insurance coverage for employees, as provided to other employees of the parish.

- (5) Travel expenses where appropriate for operation of the office or for training seminars and registrations for seminars, schools, and professional societies.
- (6) Any other expenses which may be incurred in the normal operation of the office of the district attorney.

Proposed law provides that the expenses shall be paid by the governing authorities of the 22nd Judicial District from their general funds or other funds made available for this purpose.

Proposed law provides that the following budgetary expenses shall not be reduced without the consent of the district attorney:

- (1) The operating budget.
- (2) The district attorney's annual budget, except for a pro rata reduction in all operating budgets of all departments.

Proposed law provides that the limitation on reduction of the budget does not apply to the capital outlay portion of the budget provided that the capital outlay portion does not include the following:

- (1) Office Equipment.
- (2) Furniture.
- (3) Communication equipment.
- (4) Expenses for a law library.
- (5) Computer systems.

Present law provides for second, third, and fourth assistant district attorneys along with a set salary and payment of salaries by the parishes of St. Tammany and Washington.

Proposed law repeals present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 16:483 and 484; Adds R.S. 16:488; Repeals R.S. 16:485-487)