

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 708

BY REPRESENTATIVE VENTRELLA

COURTS/JUSTICE OF PEACE: Authorizes concurrent jurisdiction for justice of the peace and city courts in East Baton Rouge Parish

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Code of Civil Procedure Article 4912(C), relative to justice of the peace court
3 districts and jurisdiction in East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for jurisdiction over
4 evictions for justice of the peace courts in East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for
5 concurrent jurisdiction with the city courts of East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide
6 for district boundaries of the justice of the peace courts in East Baton Rouge Parish;
7 and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Article 4912(C) is hereby enacted to read as
10 follows:

11 Art. 4912. Possession or ownership of movable property; eviction proceedings;
12 justice of the peace courts

13 * * *

14 C.(1) A justice of the peace court in East Baton Rouge Parish shall, within
15 its territorial jurisdiction, have concurrent jurisdiction with the city courts of East
16 Baton Rouge Parish over suits by landowners or lessors for the eviction of occupants
17 or tenants of leased residential or commercial premises and leased farmlands where
18 the amount of the monthly rental does not exceed five thousand dollars per month,
19 regardless of the amount of yearly rent or the rent for the unexpired term of the lease.

1 (2) The territorial jurisdiction of a justice of the peace court in East Baton
2 Rouge parish shall coincide with the district boundaries of the court as provided in
3 law.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 708 Original

2026 Regular Session

Ventrella

Abstract: Provides for concurrent jurisdiction between the justice of the peace and city courts in East Baton Rouge Parish over evictions and for the jurisdictional boundaries of justice of the peace courts in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Present law provides that a justice of the peace court has concurrent jurisdiction with a parish or district court over suits for the possession or ownership of movable property and over suits by landowners or lessors for the eviction of occupants or tenants of leased residential premises regardless of the amount of monthly or yearly rent or rent for the unexpired term of the lease.

Present law provides that a justice of the peace court has jurisdiction over suits by landowners or lessors for the eviction of occupants or tenants of leased commercial premises and leased farmlands where the amount of the monthly rental does not exceed \$5,000 per month, regardless of the amount of rent due or the rent for the unexpired term of the lease.

Proposed law provides that justices of the peace in East Baton Rouge Parish shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the city courts in East Baton Rouge Parish for the eviction of occupants or tenants of leased residential or commercial premises and leased farmlands where the amount of the monthly rental does not exceed \$5,000 per month, regardless of the amount of yearly rent or rent for the unexpired term of the lease.

Proposed law provides that the territorial jurisdiction of a justice of the peace court in East Baton Rouge parish shall coincide with the district boundaries of the court as provided in law.

(Adds C.C.P. Art. 4912(C))