

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 187

2026 Regular Session

Muscarello

COURTS/COURT REPORTERS: Revises the provisions of law regarding court reporters and the court reporter pool employed by the La. Supreme Court

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Authorizes a stenographer-reporter of the Bd. of Tax Appeals to prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with the board's rules.
2. Requires a stenographer-reporter to be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for the board.
3. Modifies present law to designate the 30 court reporters in the La. Supreme Court reporter pool as emergency court reporters.
4. Authorizes emergency court reporters to prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with the board's rules.
5. Requires an emergency court reporter to be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for the board.
6. Restores present law that provides for the court reporter pool of the La. Supreme Court.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law authorizes a stenographer-reporter of the Bd. of Tax Appeals to prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with the board's rules.

Proposed law requires that the stenographer-reporter be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for the board in the same manner as if appointed by the district court for the parish of the board's domicile and be considered a certified digital reporter during his or her continued employment in that capacity.

Present law establishes a court reporter pool of 30 court reporters employed by the La. Supreme Court from which the court reporters are authorized to be assigned from time to time to any of the various state district courts as the need arises to lodge transcripts for criminal appeals and other necessary purposes for appellate courts.

Proposed law retains present law but designates the 30 court reporters as emergency court reporters that are either employed or approved by the La. Supreme Court.

Present law requires that, in addition to all fees for court reporters provided for in present law, each court reporter in the pool be paid an annual salary in the amount of \$15,000.

Present law requires the La. Supreme Court to provide for the salaries, related costs, and travel expenses of the court reporters in its annual budget for operations of the court and prohibits reimbursement for travel expenses of pool court reporters from exceeding the amount allowed other state employees.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires an emergency court reporter appointed pursuant to proposed law to prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with rules duly adopted by the La. Supreme Court for that purpose.

Proposed law requires that an emergency court reporter be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for a district court in the same manner as if appointed by it.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:981(A) and (D); Adds R.S. 13:961(J))