

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 341

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY LANDRY

JUDGES/JUSTICE OF PEACE: Requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to conduct a study of the handling of eviction proceedings by justice of the peace courts

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to conduct a study of how justice  
3 of the peace courts handle eviction proceedings and how structure of the courts,  
4 funding, and procedures impact fairness and outcomes for tenants and landlords.

5 WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts are statutorily authorized by R.S. 13:2586  
6 and have concurrent jurisdiction with the district courts in all civil matters; and

7 WHEREAS, there are three-hundred ninety justice of the peace courts in this state;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, justice of the peace courts operate under different and more limited  
10 procedural protections for litigants than the district courts; and

11 WHEREAS, legal training of individuals holding judgeships, including ethics,  
12 conflicts of interest, and continuing education, should be required to ensure qualification for  
13 the duties they perform; and

14 WHEREAS, evictions carry significant social and economic consequences; and

15 WHEREAS, financial incentives, including the filing fees received and retained by  
16 the justice of the peace courts from eviction proceedings, could lead to higher evictions and  
17 a bias for landlords; and

18 WHEREAS, a discussion regarding the operations of these courts, the training  
19 provided, the audit of operations, the method of funding, and related expenditures is  
20 necessary; and

1           WHEREAS, a study by the Louisiana State Law Institute is necessary to provide data  
2 and recommendations to the legislature to develop potential reforms that improve fairness,  
3 transparency, and consistency in eviction proceedings.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute  
6 to conduct a study of how justice of the peace courts handle eviction proceedings and how  
7 structure of the courts, funding, and procedures impact fairness and outcomes for tenants and  
8 landlords, and to provide a report to the legislature no later than February 1, 2027.

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit  
10 one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to the Resolution  
11 to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

12           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
13 director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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#### 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)]

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HR 341 Original

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Terry Landry

Directs the La. State Law Institute to study how justice of the peace courts handle eviction proceedings and how structure of the courts, funding, and procedures impact fairness and outcomes for tenants and landlords.

Requires a report of its findings to the legislature by Feb. 1, 2027.