DIGEST

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Rosalind Jones

HB No. 130

Abstract: Authorizes the judges of the 4th JDC (Ouachita Parish), by rule adopted by a majority of the judges sitting en banc, to assign a division of the court as a mental health court.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the judges of the 4th JDC, by rule adopted by a majority vote of the judges sitting en banc, to assign certain divisions of the court to a criminal section and certain divisions to a civil, drug court, juvenile, or other section of the court.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and authorizes the judges of the 4th JDC, by rule adopted by a majority vote of the judges sitting en banc, to assign a division of the court as a mental health court.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and prohibits a rule adopted by the court from assigning any division, without its consent, to any section for a period longer than three years.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> providing that all divisions of the court shall retain general jurisdiction to hear all matters even if they are assigned as a specialized section subject matter jurisdiction.

(Amends R.S. 13:587.2(A))