DIGEST

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HB 525 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Robby Carter

Abstract: Provides that in a judicial district comprised of multiple parishes, in certain circumstances, a judge or hearing officer may conduct a hearing in any parish within the judicial district.

<u>Present law</u> provides that any court in this state empowered to hear family or juvenile matters shall have jurisdiction over domestic abuse proceedings.

<u>Present law</u> provides that venue is proper in the parish where: (1) the marital domicile is located or where the household is located; (2) the defendant resides; (3) the abuse is alleged to have been committed; (4) the petitioner resides; or (5) an action for annulment of marriage or for a divorce could be brought under <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that in a judicial district comprised of multiple parishes, if a court determines that in the ends of justice to afford the parties a more expeditious hearing than current docketing scheduling would permit, or to comply with the time provisions provided for by <u>present law</u>, a judge or hearing officer may conduct a hearing in any parish within the judicial district.

(Amends R.S. 46:2133(C); Adds R.S. 46:2133(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Replaces reference to "emergency situations" with a provision authorizing the court to determine if the ends of justice afford the parties a more expeditious hearing.