

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 63

BY REPRESENTATIVES GREEN AND HUGHES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

JUDGES: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the mandatory retirement of judges

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article V, Section 23(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the mandatory retirement of judges; to provide that a judge shall not remain in office beyond his seventy-fifth birthday; to provide for applicability; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article V, Section 23(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§23. Judges; Retirement

Section 23.

* * *

(B) Mandatory Retirement. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, a judge shall not remain in office beyond his ~~seventieth birthday~~ seventy-fifth birthday. A judge who attains seventy-five years of age ~~A judge who attains seventy years of age~~ while serving a term of office shall be allowed to complete that term of office.

(2) The provisions of this Paragraph shall apply to all judges sworn in to the office of judge on or after January 1, 1997.

1 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
2 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3,
3 2026, or at a statewide election authorized by law, whichever occurs first.

4 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
5 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
6 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
7 follows:

8 Do you support an amendment to provide that a judge sworn in to the office
9 of judge on or after January 1,1997, shall not remain in office beyond his
10 seventy-fifth birthday. (Amends Article V, Section 23(B))

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 63 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Provides that a judge shall not remain in office after reaching 75 years of age.

Present constitution provides that a judge shall not remain in office beyond his 70th birthday, but also provides that he may remain in office until the completion of his term if he attains 70 years of age while serving a term of office.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the mandatory age of retirement to 75 from 70 years of age.

Proposed constitutional amendment applies to all judges sworn in to the office of judge on or after Jan. 1, 1997.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 3, 2026, or at a statewide election authorized by law, whichever occurs first.

(Amends Const. Art. V, §23(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Provide that a judge shall not remain in office after reaching 70 years of age and his maximum retirement compensation.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add technical amendments.

2. Change the mandatory age of retirement to 75 ~~from~~ 70 years of age.
3. Remove provisions relative to attaining 100% of final average compensation from the judicial retirement system.
4. Make corresponding technical changes to the ballot.