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## DIGEST

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HB 263 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Farnum

**Abstract:** Authorizes the magistrate judge of the 14th Judicial District Court (JDC) to preside over specialty court programs.

Present law provides relative to the elected magistrate judge of the 14th JDC. Further provides for term limits, qualifications, salary requirements, and related matters.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law defines "specialty court" and further provides that subject to the approval of the en banc judges of the 14th JDC, the magistrate judge may preside over specialty court programs to fully adjudicate related felony charges for those who have pled into or otherwise agreed to participate in a specialty court program.

(Adds R.S. 13:589(E))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

#### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Modify the definition of "specialty court" to include a drug, domestic abuse, behavioral health, or juvenile specialty court handling matters related to allegations of domestic abuse.