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## DIGEST

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Richmond

HB No. 319

**Abstract:** Merges the 25th JDC into the 24th JDC, provide for judges of the court, provides for assistant district attorneys for the court, and provides for a referendum election in the parishes of Jefferson and Plaquemines.

Present law provides that the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District Court shall be composed of Jefferson Parish and shall have 16 judges.

Present law provides that the 24th JDC shall be composed of Plaquemines Parish and shall have four judges (but they only have two judges).

Proposed law provides that the 24th JDC shall be composed of the parishes of Jefferson and Plaquemines and shall have 17 judges.

Present law provides that each judicial district shall have a district attorney and that in the 24th JDC they shall have not less than 52 assistant district attorneys and in the 25th shall have not less than five assistant district attorneys.

Proposed law provides that there will be one district attorney for the 24th JDC and there shall be not less than 57 assistant district attorneys.

Proposed law provides for the governor to call a special election in both the parish of Jefferson and the parish of Plaquemines on the proposition that the 25th JDC be merged into the 24th JDC with a favorable vote of a majority of those voting thereon in each parish required for the 25th JDC to be merged into the 24th JDC.

Proposed law provides for one additional judge for the 24th JDC to be elected from election section two, which is composed of Plaquemines Parish, and provides for his jurisdiction, compensation, election, and term of office beginning on Jan. 1, 2009.

Proposed law repeals provisions of law providing for judges for the 25th JDC and their court reporters and repeals provisions pertaining to the office of the district attorney for the 25th JDC.

Proposed law provides for a special effective date of Jan. 1, 2009, for the merger of the 25th JDC into the 24th JDC, if in the special election a majority of the voters of both Jefferson and Plaquemines parishes approve the referendum and that provisions directing the governor to call for a special referendum election for both parishes are effective upon signature of governor or

lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 13:477(intro.para.) and (24) and 621.24 and R.S. 16:51(A)(24); Repeals R.S. 13:477(25), 621.24, and 972 and R.S. 16:51(A)(25) and 571-574)