

**LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES TASK FORCE
RESOLUTION PROPOSING TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE HOUSE**

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Bar Association House of Delegates was created in 1957 and is defined in the Articles of Incorporation as the Association's policy-making body;

WHEREAS, the Articles also provide that the House is comprised of one delegate from each of the State's Judicial Districts, plus an additional delegate for each additional district judge, for a current total of 237 elected delegates;

WHEREAS, in recent years, there has been a significant number of available House of Delegates seats for which no one has qualified:

- 2024-2025 (20th – 42nd) – 49 vacancies of 122 available seats (40%)
- 2025-2026 (1st – 19th) – 67 vacancies of 114 available seats (59%)

WHEREAS, the House of Delegates Rules of Procedure provide that the chairs of the LSBA's twenty-nine (29) voluntary sections shall be ex-officio members of the House and have all of the privileges as members of the House including, but not limited to, the right to vote, the right to the floor, and the right to designate a proxy;

WHEREAS, since 2021 the LSBA has allowed delegates to participate and vote remotely in House of Delegates meetings; and but for this remote participation the House would have very likely been unable to certify a quorum;

WHEREAS, the Task Force surveyed the House of Delegates and other Bar leaders in the summer of 2025, which survey revealed that 63 percent of those responding believe the House of Delegates is too large;

WHEREAS, the Task Force proposes that every Judicial District's representation be reduced by at least 50 percent, that in any District where this reduction results in a fraction that the number be rounded down, and that every District retain at least one representative;

WHEREAS, the Task Force further proposes that in lieu of every Section Chair being a member of the House, the Section Council elect three (3) Section Chairs to represent the interests of the Sections in the House of Delegates;

WHEREAS, using this formula changes the composition of the House as follows:

<u>JUDICIAL DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
1 st (Caddo)	14 (5.4%)	7 (5.9%)
2 nd (Bienville, Claiborne & Jackson)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
3 rd (Lincoln & Union)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
4 th (Morehouse & Ouachita)	11 (4.1%)	5 (4.2%)
5 th (Franklin, Richland & West Carroll)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
6 th (East Carroll, Madison & Tensas)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)

<u>JUDICIAL DISTRICT</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
7 th (Catahoula & Concordia)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
8 th (Winn)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
9 th (Rapides)	7 (2.5%)	3 (2.5%)
10 th (Natchitoches)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
11 th (Sabine)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
12 th (Avoyelles)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
13 th (Evangeline)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
14 th (Calcasieu)	10 (3.7%)	5 (4.2%)
15 th (Acadia, Lafayette & Vermilion)	13 (4.8%)	6 (5%)
16 th (Iberia, St. Martin & St. Mary)	8 (3%)	4 (3.4%)
17 th (Lafourche)	5 (1.8%)	2 (1.7%)
18 th (Iberville, Pointe Coupee & West Baton Rouge)	4 (1.5%)	2 (1.7%)
19 th (East Baton Rouge)	21 (7.8%)	10 (8.5%)
20 th (East Feliciana & West Feliciana)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
21 st (Livingston, St. Helena & Tangipahoa)	10 (3.7%)	5 (4.2%)
22 nd (St. Tammany & Washington)	12 (4.5%)	6 (5%)
23 rd (Ascension, Assumption & St. James)	6 (2.2%)	3 (2.5%)
24 th (Jefferson)	19 (7.1%)	9 (7.6%)
25 th (Plaquemine)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
26 th (Bossier & Webster)	6 (2.2%)	3 (2.5%)
27 th (St. Landry)	4 (1.5%)	2 (1.7%)
28 th (LaSalle)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
29 th (St. Charles)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
30 th (Vernon)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
31 st (Jefferson Davis)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
32 nd (Terrebonne)	5 (1.8%)	2 (1.7%)
33 rd (Allen)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
34 th (St. Bernard)	5 (1.8%)	2 (1.7%)
35 th (Grant)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
36 th (Beauregard)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
37 th (Caldwell)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
38 th (Cameron)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
39 th (Red River)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
40 th (St. John the Baptist)	3 (1.1%)	1 (<1%)
41 st (Orleans)	31 (11.6%)	15 (12.7%)
42 nd (DeSoto)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
Section Chairs	<u>29 (10.9%)</u>	<u>3 (2.5%)</u>
	266	118

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the size of the House of Delegates be reduced to reflect the changes set forth above;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that implementation of these changes begin with the 2026-2027 election cycle, when the membership will elect delegates from the 20th through 42nd Judicial Districts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that implementation continue with the 2027-2028 election

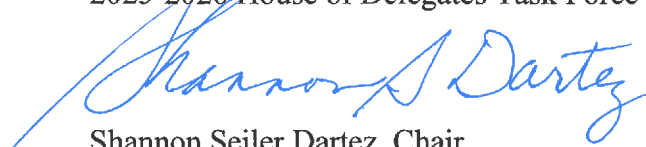
cycle, when the membership will elect delegates from the 1st through 19th Judicial Districts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reduction in the number of section chairs with positions in the House of Delegates be implemented beginning with the June 2028 House of Delegates meeting, with those individuals being elected in January 2028; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LSBA's Articles of Incorporation and the Rules of the House of Delegates, be amended as set forth in Exhibits A and B to reflect these changes.

Respectfully submitted:

2025-2026 House of Delegates Task Force



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EXHIBIT A

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE VIII. HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Section 2. Composition - Terms

The House of Delegates shall be composed of one Delegate from each Judicial District of the State, who shall be an active member of the Bar of such district; provided, that in every judicial district where there ~~is~~are more than ~~one~~three district judges (the words "District Judge" in this section include civil district judges, criminal district judges, juvenile judges and family court judges) such judicial district shall be entitled to one additional delegate for each ~~such~~two additional judges; that in any district where this calculation results in a fraction the number shall be rounded down.

EXHIBIT B

LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule I MEETINGS OF THE HOUSE

7. The ~~chairpersons of the sections~~ Section Council of the Louisiana State Bar Association shall ~~annually in January elect three section chairs to serve one-year terms beginning the following June~~ as ~~be~~-ex-officio members of the House of Delegates and, as such, shall have all of the privileges as members of the House including, but not limited to, the right to vote, the right to the floor, and the right to designate a proxy.