## ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

## RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO: C-6104

COUNCIL SPONSOR: LORINO/BRISTER PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION GRANTING JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS AND CONSTABLES IN ST. TAMMANY PARISH JURISDICTION REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO PROPERTY STANDARDS AND NUISANCE VIOLATIONS.

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish has continued to encounter difficulty in enforcing violations of the Parish Code relative to property standards and nuisance violations; and

WHEREAS, the number of violations has increased to over 1,300 in 2018; and

WHEREAS, due to budgeting issues, the number of code enforcement officers was reduced; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of the duly elected Justices of the Peace and Constables of the Parish, these violations can be handled in a more effective and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, legislation at the State level granting jurisdiction to the Justice of the Peace Courts and Constables in St. Tammany Parish is needed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Tammany Parish Council vigorously supports the legislation granting jurisdiction in St. Tammany Parish to the Justice of the Peace Courts and Constables over nuisance violations and property standards adopted pursuant to local ordinance.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the St. Tammany Parish Council desires that Ward 8 - Slidell City Court and Ward 8 - Justice of the Peace Court have concurrent jurisdiction, while Ward 9 - Slidell City Court shall retain exclusive authority over said violations.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY:	SECONDED BY:	
YEAS:		
NAYS:		
ABSTAIN:		
ABSENT:		

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE  $\underline{4}$  DAY OF  $\underline{APRIL}$ , 2019, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

ATTEST:
THERESA L. FORD, COUNCIL CLERK

SENATE BILL NO.

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

COURTS. Provides relative to the jurisdiction, duties, and compensation of justices of the peace and constables in St. Tammany Parish. (gov sig)

AN ACT

2	To enact R.S. 13:2586(C)(6), 2587.3 and 2589(D), relative to justice of the peace courts in
3	St. Tammany Parish; to provide for prosecution of property standards violations; to
4	provide for nuisance violations; to provide for jurisdiction over property standards
5	violations; to provide for summons and subpoenas by constables; to provide for
6	reimbursement; and to provide for related matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 13: 2586(C)(6), 2587.3 and 2589(D) are hereby enacted read as
9	follows:
10	§2586. Jurisdiction and procedure
11	* * *
12	C.
13	* * *
14	(6)(a) A constable of a justice of the peace court in St. Tammany Parish may
15	issue a summons or serve a subpoena anywhere within St. Tammany Parish for a
16	property standards or nuisance violation adopted pursuant to local ordinance.
17	(b) A justice of the peace court in St. Tammany Parish shall have concurrent

1	jurisdiction over a property standards or nuisance violation adopted pursuant to local
2	ordinance, except as provided in Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph.
3	(c) In Ward 8, a property standards or nuisance violation adopted pursuant to
4	local ordinance shall be prosecuted in Slidell City Court or Ward 8 Justice of the Peace
5	Courtain Ward 9, a property standards or nuisance violation adopted pursuant to local
6	ordinance shall be prosecuted in Slidell City Court.
7	* * *
8	§2587.3 Prosecution of property standards and nuisance violations in justice of
9	the peace courts
10	When a justice of the peace court in St. Tammany Parish shall have concurrent
11	jurisdiction over a property standards or nuisance violation adopted pursuant to local
12	ordinance, the constable of that court may act as prosecutor if authorized by the court,
13	or the deputy constable if authorized, may act as prosecutor if the constable was the
14	arresting officer, issued the citations of summons, or is a witness. If there is no deputy
15	constable then the justice of the peace may appoint a special deputy constable to
16	prosecute the case or may authorize a constable from another ward in the parish to
17	proseucte the matter.
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by

§2589. Compensation of justices of the peace and constables in criminal matters

D. In St. Tammany Parish, in addition to the reimbursement provided for

Subsection B of this Section, the justice of the peace courts and ward constable offices

shall also be reimbursed for handling the violations as defined per local ordinance.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

## DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

SB Draft

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the justice of the peace courts in St. Tammany Parish shall have concurrent jurisdiction with district courts over property standards and nuisance violations except in Ward 9, which shall be prosecuted in Slidell City Court.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the constable of the justice of the peace court in St. Tammany Parish or his deputy shall act as a prosecutor to adjudicate property standards and nuisance violations.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the justice of the peace courts and constable office in St. Tammany shall be reimbursed for handling property standards and nuisance violations.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 13: 2586(C)(6), 2587.3, and 2589(D))

r measure.