



National Court Reporters Association
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Senate Retirement Committee
Attn: Sen. Ed Price, Chair
P.O. Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Re: LA SB 6 - Retirement benefits for court reporters

March 21, 2025

Dear Chair Price,

On behalf of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), I am pleased to offer our wholehearted support for Louisiana Senate Bill 6, which works to permit retired official court reporters to return to the workforce. This legislation reflects a thoughtful and pragmatic approach to addressing critical staffing concerns while reinforcing the essential role of court reporters in Louisiana's judicial system.

Court reporters serve as dedicated officers of the court, their work ensures that the official record—where due process begins—is accurate, reliable, and complete. By allowing retired court reporters to return to work in areas facing critical shortages without sacrificing their retirement benefits, SB 6 prioritizes the administration and restoration of justice for Louisiana's citizenry. This measure not only supports the professionals who have devoted their careers to this vital service but also safeguards the rights of individuals who depend on a robust court system for fair and timely resolution.

NCRA applauds this legislation for its recognition of the indispensable contributions of court reporters and its proactive solution to staffing challenges. We believe SB 6 will encourage experienced professionals to reenter the workforce, bringing their expertise to judicial districts and parishes in need, thereby strengthening the foundation of justice across the state.

To further support the successful implementation of this bill, NCRA extends an invitation to engage with our members. Our Louisiana-based court reporters are available to meet, sharing their insights on the demands of their role and the importance of their return to service. Additionally, we are eager to connect you with students aspiring to launch careers in this field, as well as our Professional Development Department, which stands ready to assist returning reporters in transitioning back into the workforce seamlessly.

We earnestly advocate for the committee's favorable consideration of this bill and thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Keith Lemons

Keith R. Lemons, FAPR, RPR, CRR (Ret.)
President, National Court Reporters Association