

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 81
COMMENTS BY WALT BRUNTY
Member Notary Public Study Committee

HCR 81: Line 7-9 How many of the 22,914 Non Attorney Notaries Statewide have approached Rep. Bruneau requesting a statewide commission?
(All of those whom I have spoken with admit that if their commission was statewide, they would still not travel out of the areas they are currently active in).
(One lady who said she schedules education classes for an organization, felt that a statewide commission would allow her to notarize documents from out of state ((She already can if the parties appear before her in her jurisdiction)).

HCR 81: Line 10 The Office of Notary Public is that of a "Public Official", not a professional. (For those who wish to become professionals, I recommend they go to Law School, and take the BAR Exam)

HCR 81: Line 12-15 Every Notary Public Commissioned is administered an Oath of Office requiring them to exercise their duties according to the Laws and the Constitution of the State. (In order for them to fulfill their oath, they must remain aware of changes in the law).

HCR 81: Line 16-18 Testing of applicants for Notary Public Commissions should remain a Parish responsibility. While test questions may be uniform throughout the state, and various editions of the test used to prevent compromise, the test administration should remain with the Parish, and the frequency of the test controlled by the Parish (Some metropolitan Parishes may not need to test as often because they have an abundance of Notaries already, where a rural Parish may need a few more).

HCR 81: Line 19 A system to insure the Integrity of the Notary Public is already in place. (It is the District Attorney, the District Court, and the Secretary of State. The citizens of this state are protected by those officials and by the Notary Bond).

HCR 81: Line 25-28 This committee has accomplished the requirement.

HCR 81: Line 29-32 There should be no need to collect additional fees, or create new positions to accomplish something that is not needed or necessary. (Voluntary continuing education is working, give it time).

OTHER CONCERNS:

Would the requirement for Mandatory Continuing Education create an unfair advantage for those who were members of the various organizations who provide the education?

Will those organizations send notices of classes to all 22,914 Notaries Public in the state, regardless of whether they are members or not?

OTHER CONCERNS, Continued

Will those organizations grant the non-members the same price as members for classes or seminars?

Will classes or seminars be presented in rural parishes, thus precluding high travel costs and expenses (Most Notaries Public don't earn enough in annual fees to attend classes or travel) However they do provide a service to constituents in areas where there are few attorneys.

SUMMATION

I have spoken with numerous Notaries Public from Baton Rouge to Bossier City, and I have yet to find more than a handful who want changes to the existing laws concerning their office after a little discussion, and I have had more than a few ask me why is Rep. Bruneau trying to fix something that isn't broken?

I also wish to comment on the ludicrous proposal by Mr. Bello for revising Title 35 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes Annotated. Personally, I feel that he is responsible for HCR 81 coming about, and has caused a great deal of unnecessary work for the House, the Senate, and the Secretary Of State.

IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT!



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