

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
84th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2003  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 874**

"AN ACT TO ESTABLISH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR  
DISTRICT COURTS."

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**Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 874.**

Amend Senate Bill No. 874 as originally introduced:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute:

"SECTION 1. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Department" means the physical location where sessions of court are held; and

(2) "Division" means the subject matter division of the court.

SECTION 2. (a)(1)(A) Each of the following counties shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time district judge:

(B) Baxter, Boone, Bradley, Calhoun, Clark, Cleburne, Cleveland, Columbia, Conway, Cross, Dallas, Drew, Faulkner, Fulton, Grant, Greene, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Independence, IZARD, Jackson, Johnson, Lawrence, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Madison, Marion, Miller, Montgomery, Nevada, Newton, Perry, Pike, Poinsett, Polk, Randolph, Scott, Searcy, Sevier, Sharp, St. Francis, Stone, Union, Van Buren, and Woodruff.

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(A) Faulkner and Miller Counties - Part time/1;

(B) Clark, Greene, Poinsett, and Union Counties - Part time/2;

(C) Baxter, Boone, Conway, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Independence, Lawrence, and St. Francis Counties - Part time/3;

(D) Cleburne, Columbia, Cross, Fulton, Howard, Jackson, Johnson, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Perry, Polk, Randolph, Sevier, Sharp, and Van Buren Counties - Part time/4;

(E) Bradley, Calhoun, Cleveland, Dallas, Drew, IZARD, Lafayette, Marion, Nevada, Scott, Searcy, and Stone Counties - Part time/5; and

(F) Grant, Madison, Montgomery, Newton, Pike, and Woodruff Counties - Part time/6.

(3) The district court shall be located in the county seat of the counties listed in subdivision (a)(2) of this section.



(4)(A) The judge of any district court located in a county with one (1) district court shall be elected countywide.

(B) If there is only one (1) district court in a county, it shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. Crittenden County shall have the following district courts and judges:

(1) Marion shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part-time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/5.

(2) West Memphis shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/3.

(3) The jurisdiction of any district court in Crittenden County shall be countywide.

(4) The judge of any district court in Crittenden County shall be elected countywide.

SECTION 4. (a)(1) Carroll, Franklin, Logan, and Prairie counties, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have one (1) district court in each district and one (1) part time district judge for each court:

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(A) Logan and Franklin Counties – Part time/4;

and

(B) Carroll County - Part time/5.

(C) Prairie County:

(i) Des Arc - Part Time/2; and

(ii) DeValls Bluff - Part Time/5.

(b) The district court in Carroll, Franklin, Logan, and Prairie counties shall be located in the county seat town of each judicial district in the county.

(c) The judge of any district court located in Carroll, Franklin, Logan, and Prairie counties shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district in which the court is located.

(d) In Carroll, Franklin, Logan, and Prairie counties the jurisdiction of the district court shall be limited to the district in which the court sits.

SECTION 5. (a)(1) Sebastian County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have:

(A) One (1) district court in Ft. Smith with two (2) divisions, and one (1) full time judge for each division; and

(B) One district court in Greenwood with one (1) part time district judge.

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(A) Fort Smith - Full time/B; and

(B) Greenwood - Part time/3.

(3) The judge of any district court in Sebastian County shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district in which the court is located.

(4) The jurisdiction of the district court in Sebastian County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 6. (a) Craighead County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have one (1) district court in Jonesboro with two (2) divisions and one (1) full time judge for each division.

(b) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Full time/B.

(c) The judges of the district court in Craighead County shall be elected countywide.

(d) The district court in Craighead County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 7. (a) Clay County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments, one (1) department located in the county seat town of each judicial district and both departments to be served by one (1) part time judge.

(b) The salary status and grade for this district judgeship shall be Part time/4.

(c) The judge of the district court in Clay County shall be elected countywide.

(d) The district court in Clay County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 8. (a) Arkansas County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have two (2) district courts, one (1) located in the county seat town of each judicial district and one (1) part time judge for each court.

(b) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(1) Stuttgart - Part time/4; and

(2) Dewitt - Part time/5.

(c) The judge of any district court in Arkansas County shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district in which the court is located.

(d) The jurisdiction of the district court in Arkansas County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 9. (a) Mississippi County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have two (2) district courts, one (1) located in the county seat town of each judicial district and one (1) part time judge for each court.

(b) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(1) Osceola - Part time/2; and

(2) Blytheville - Part time/3.

(c) The judge of any district court in Mississippi County shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district in which the court is located.

(d) The jurisdiction of the district court in Mississippi County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 10. (a) Yell County, having two (2) judicial districts, shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments, one (1) department located in the county seat town of each judicial district and both departments to be served by one (1) part time judge.

(b) The salary status and grade for this district judgeship shall be Part time/5.

(c) The judge of the district court in Yell County shall be elected countywide.

(d) The district court in Yell County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 11. (a) Ashley County shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments, one (1) located in Crossett and one (1) located in Hamburg and one (1) part time judge for each department.

(b) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Part time/5.

(c) The judges of the district court in Ashley County shall be elected countywide.

(d) The district court in Ashley County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 12. (a) Benton County shall have the following district courts and judges:

(1) Rogers shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/2.

(2) Bentonville shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/1.

(3) Siloam Springs shall have one (1) district court and one part time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/4.

(4) Benton County West shall have one (1) district court and one part time district judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/4.

(5) The district court boundaries in Benton County shall be as follows:

(A) District Court 1- Area:

(i) All of State Representative Districts 94, 95, and 96 as drawn by the Arkansas Board of Apportionment in 2002;

(ii) That part of State Representative District 98 as drawn by the Arkansas Board of Apportionment in 2002 that is in Benton County Quorum Court District 1 as established by the Benton County Election Commission;

(iii) That part of Benton County Quorum Court District 6 as established by the County Election Commission that is in State Representative District 96 and 98 as drawn by the Arkansas Board of Apportionment in 2002; and

(iv) All of the now existing Precincts 43, 44, and 49.

(B) District Court 2 - Area:

(i) All of Benton County Quorum Court Districts 7, 8, 9, and 10 as established by the Benton County Election Commission;

(ii) All of State Representative District 99 as drawn by the Arkansas Board of Apportionment in 2002 except for the now existing Precincts 43, 44, and 49; and

(iii) all of the now existing Precinct 45;

(C) District Court 3 - County West:

(i) All of Benton County Quorum Court District 11 as established by the Benton County Election Commission;

19; and

(iii) That part of the now existing Precinct 15 lying North of Shady Grove Road, Garman Road, and Springtown Road; and

(D) District Court 4- Springs:

(i) All of State Representative District 97 as drawn by the Arkansas Board of Apportionment in 2002; and

(ii) All of the now existing Precinct 7, 14, 16, and 17; that part of the now existing Precinct 15 lying South of Shady Grove Road, Garman Road, and Springtown Road.

(b) The judge of any district court in Benton County shall be elected by the qualified electors within the district in which the court is located.

(c) The jurisdiction of any district court in Benton County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 13. (a)(1) Chicot County shall have one (1) district court with the following three (3) departments:

(A) One (1) located in Dermott;

(B) One (1) located in Eudora; and

(C) One (1) located in Lake Village.

(2)(A) Each department shall have one (1) part time judge.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Part time/5.

(b) The judges of the district court in Chicot County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court located in Chicot County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 14. (a)(1) Desha County shall have one (1) district court with the following two (2) departments:

(A) One (1) located in Dumas; and

(B) One (1) located in McGehee.

(2)(A) Each department shall have one (1) part time judge.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be part time/4.

(b) The judges of the district court in Desha County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court located in Desha County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 15. (a) Garland County shall have:

(1) One (1) district court with two (2) divisions and;

(2)(A) One (1) part time judge for each division.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Part time/1.

(b) The judges of the district court in Garland County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court located in Garland County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 16. (a) Jefferson County shall have:

(1) Two (2) district courts located in Pine Bluff; and

(2)(A) Two (2) full time district judges.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Full time/B.

(b)(A) The judge of the Pine Bluff district court shall be elected by the qualified electors of the city of Pine Bluff.

(B) The Pine Bluff district court shall have jurisdiction only within the city limits of Pine Bluff, as now or in the future may be constituted.

(c)(A) The judge of the Jefferson County district court shall be elected countywide.

(B) The Jefferson County district court shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 17. (a) Lonoke County, having two (2) judicial districts shall have the following district courts and judges:

(1) The Northern District of Lonoke County shall have:

(A) One (1) district court located in Cabot; and

(B) One (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/5.

(2)(A) The Southern District of Lonoke County shall have one (1) district court with three (3) departments as follows:

(i) One (1) department located in Lonoke to be served by one (1) part time judge;

(ii) One (1) department located in England; and

(iii) One (1) department located in Carlisle with both departments to be served by one (1) part time judge.

(B) Each judge shall have a salary status and grade of Part time/5.

(b) The district court boundaries in Lonoke County shall be as follows:

(1) The northern district shall consist of the townships of Butler, Caroline, Cleveland, Eagle, Goodrum, Magness, Oak Grove, Prairie, Totten, Ward, and York; and

(2) The southern district shall consist of the townships of Carlisle, Crooked Creek, Dortch, Fletcher, Furlow, Gum Woods, Gray, Hamilton, Indian Bayou, Isabel, Lafayette, and Lonoke.

(c) The judge of any district court in Lonoke County shall be elected by the qualified electors of the judicial district in which the court is located.

(d) The jurisdiction of the district court in Lonoke County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 18. (a)(1) Monroe County shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Brinkley; and

(B) One (1) located in Clarendon.

(2)(A) One (1) part time judge for each department.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(i) Brinkley - Part time/5; and

(ii) Clarendon - Part time/6.

(C) The judges of the district court in Monroe County

shall be elected countywide.

(b) The district court located in Monroe County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 19 (a)(1) Ouachita County shall have two (2) district courts as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Camden; and

(B) One (1) located in East Camden.

(2)(A) One (1) part time judge for each court.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(i) Camden - Part time/3; and

(ii) East Camden - Part time/6.

(b)(1) The judge of the district court in Camden shall be elected countywide.

(2) The district court in Camden shall have countywide jurisdiction.

(c)(1) The judge of the district court in East Camden shall be elected by the qualified electors of the city of East Camden.

(2) The district court in East Camden shall have citywide jurisdiction only.

SECTION 20. (a)(1) Phillips County shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Helena; and

(B) One (1) located in West Helena.

(2)(A) One (1) part time judge for each department.

(B) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Part time/5.

(b) The judges of the district court in Phillips County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court in Phillips shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 21 (a)(1) Saline County shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Benton with a full time judge; and

(B) One (1) located in Bryant with a part time judge.

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(A) Benton - Full time/B; and

(B) Bryant - part time/3.

(b) The judges of the district court in Saline County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court in Saline County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 22. (a) Washington County shall have the following district courts and judges:

(1) Springdale shall have one (1) district court and one (1) full time district judge with a salary status and grade of Full time/A.

(2) Fayetteville shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/1.

(3) Elkins shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/5.

(4) West Fork shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/4.

(5) Prairie Grove shall have one (1) district court and one (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/5.

(6) The District Court boundaries in Washington County shall be as follows:

(A) Springdale. The city limits of Springdale as now or in the future constituted, the townships of Elm Springs, Tontitown, Harmon and that portion of the township of Johnson that lies outside the city limits of Fayetteville;

(B) Fayetteville. The city limits of Fayetteville as now or in the future constituted;

(C) Elkins. The townships of Brush Creek, Springdale 1, Prairie 1, Goshen, Wyman, Prairie 2, Richland, Richland Senate, White River, and Durham;

(D) West Fork. The townships of Valley, West Fork, Crawford, Reed, Winslow, Lee's Creek, Cove Creek, Boston, Vineyard, and that portion of Greenland that lies outside the city limits of Fayetteville; and

(E) Prairie Grove. The townships of Prairie 4, Wheeler, Litteral, Center House, Center, Prairie Grove Senate, Prairie Grove, Marrs Hill, Weddington, Illinois, Rheas, Price, Starr Hill, Dutch Mills, Morrow, and Cane Hill.

(b) The judge of any district court in Washington County shall be elected by the qualified electors within the district in which the court is located.

(c) The jurisdiction of any district court in Washington County shall be limited to the district in which the court is located.

SECTION 23. (a)(1)(A) White County shall have one (1) district court with two (2) departments as follows:

(i) One (1) located in Beebe, and

(ii) One (1) located in Searcy

(B) One (1) part time judge for each department.

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be as follows:

(A) Searcy – Part time/2; and

(B) Beebe – Part time/5.

(b) The judges of the district court in White County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court in White County shall have countywide jurisdiction.

SECTION 24. (a)(1) Pope County and Crawford County each shall have one (1) district court and one (1) full time judge.

(2) The salary status and grade for these district judgeships shall be Full time/B.

(b) The judge of the district court in Pope County and Crawford County shall be elected countywide.

(c) The district court in Pope County and Crawford County shall have county wide jurisdiction.



SECTION 25. Pulaski County shall have the following district courts and judges:

(1) Jacksonville shall have:

(A) One (1) district court with jurisdiction only within the city limits of Jacksonville, as now or in the future may be constituted, and

(B) One (1) full time judge with a salary status and grade of Full time/B, to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of Jacksonville.

(2) Little Rock shall have:

(A) Three (3) divisions of (1) district court with jurisdiction only within the city limits of Little Rock, as now or in the future may be constituted, and

(B) One (1) full time judge for each division with a salary status and grade of Full time/A, to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of Little Rock.

(3) North Little Rock shall have:

(A) Two (2) divisions of one (1) district court with jurisdiction only within the city limits of North Little Rock, as now or in the future may be constituted; and

(B) One (1) full time judge for each division with a salary status and grade of Full time/B, to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of North Little Rock.

(4) Maumelle shall have:

(A) One (1) district court with jurisdiction only within the city limits of Maumelle, as now or in the future may be constituted, and

(B) One (1) part time judge with a salary status and grade of Part time/4, to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of Maumelle.

(5) Pulaski County shall have:

(A) Three (3) departments of one (1) district court with county wide jurisdiction, one (1) full time judge and two (2) part time judges to be elected countywide.

(B) The judge of the county department of the Pulaski County district court shall be full time with a salary status and grade of Full time/A.

(C) The judge of the Sherwood department of the Pulaski County district court shall be part time with a salary status and grade of Part time/2.

(D) The judge of the Wrightsville department of the Pulaski County district court shall be part time with a salary status and grade of Part time/6.

SECTION 26. (a) There is established for the District Courts of this state a District Court Coordinator who shall be a private contractor and receive professional fees in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for fiscal year 2003-2004 and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for fiscal year 2004-2005 to be payable from the State Administration of Justice Fund.

(b) The contract will be approved by the Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court and the President of the District Judges Council.

SECTION 27. (a) District courts shall be established under this subchapter on the effective date of this act.

(b) The voters, at the 2004 nonpartisan judicial general election, shall elect the number of district judges established under this subchapter, to take office effective January 1, 2005.”

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator Salmon

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Secretary