## State of Arkansas

SENATE BILL 68

## By: Senators Harriman, Miles and Walters

## For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED §16-13-2003 TO CONVERT A CIRCUIT-CHANCERY JUDGESHIP TO A CIRCUIT JUDGESHIP AND CREATE A NEW CHANCERY JUDGESHIP IN THE TWELFTH DISTRICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated §16-13-2003 is amended to read as follows:
"16-13-2003. Judges and chancellors.
(a) The qualified electors of the Twelfth District shall elect:
(1) Two (2) circuit judges;
(2) Two (2) chancellors; and
(3) One (1) circuit-chancery judge.
(b) In the Twelfth District there shall be one (1) additional circuitchancery judgeship, which shall have jurisdiction in law, equity, and probate.
(c) (1) Each judge of the judgeship created by subdivision (a) (3) of this section shall be the judge of the juvenile division of chancery court. The judge shall serve as judge of the juvenile division in lieu of the judge who would otherwise be designated as judge of the juvenile division of chancery court in the chancery district.
(2) The judge of the additional circuit-chancery judgeship created in subdivision (a) (3) of this section shall devote such time as may be required to perform the duties of judge of the juvenile division, which duties shall be the primary obligation of the judge, and shall sit as judge of the circuit, chancery or probate court as time permits.
(d) Effective July 1, 1991;
(1) The circuit-chancery judgeship created by subdivision (b) of
this section shall become a circuit judgeship which shall have jurisdiction only in law.
(2) (A) There is hereby created an additional chancery judgeship in the Twelfth District which shall have jurisdiction in equity and probate. The Governor shall appoint a person to serve in such position from July 1, 1991, through December 31, 1992, and the qualified electors shall elect the judge at the November, 1992, General Election to take office January 1, 1993.
(B) The chancery judge created by subdivision (d) (2) (A) of this section is authorized to employ a court reporter, a case coordinator, and such other personnel as shall be necessary for the court to effectively and efficiently carry out its responsibilities."

SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the new judgeship created herein is necesssary to insure the orderly and efficient administration of justice within the Twelfth (12th) District. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval. /s/ Harriman, et al

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