

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1263

5 By: Representatives Steel, Wright  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CEASE THE TRANSFER OF SOME DISTRICT COURTS  
9 TO THE STATE DISTRICT COURT SYSTEM UNTIL FURTHER  
10 LEGISLATIVE ACTION; TO PRESERVE THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
11 JUSTICE FUND; TO PROTECT STATE TRIAL COURT ASSISTANTS  
12 BY REPEALING JUDICIAL POSITIONS NOT YET FILLED; AND  
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 TO CEASE THE TRANSFER OF SOME DISTRICT  
17 COURTS TO THE STATE DISTRICT COURT  
18 SYSTEM; TO PRESERVE THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
19 JUSTICE FUND; TO PROTECT STATE TRIAL  
20 COURT ASSISTANTS BY REPEALING JUDICIAL  
21 POSITIONS NOT YET FILLED.  
22  
23  
24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
26

27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1112 is repealed.

28 ~~16-17-1112. Reorganization of local district courts to state district~~  
29 ~~courts as of January 1, 2017.~~

30 ~~(a)(1) Beginning January 1, 2017, the following cities and counties~~  
31 ~~that are currently served by local district courts pursuant to § 16-17-901 et~~  
32 ~~seq. shall be reorganized as state district courts and served by a state~~  
33 ~~district court judge.~~

34 ~~(2) The new state district court judgeships created by this~~  
35 ~~section shall become effective January 1, 2017, and shall be placed on the~~  
36 ~~ballot to be elected in the 2016 nonpartisan judicial election from the newly~~



1 ~~constructed judicial district.~~

2 ~~(3) The cities and counties which were previously served by~~  
 3 ~~local district courts and will be served by state district courts shall~~  
 4 ~~comply with the cost-sharing requirements established in § 16-17-1106,~~  
 5 ~~effective January 1, 2017.~~

6 ~~(b)(1)(A) The Second District shall be composed of Washington County~~  
 7 ~~and the city limits of Springdale as of January 1, 2011, including that~~  
 8 ~~portion of the City of Springdale which extends into Benton County.~~

9 ~~(B) The Second District shall have ten (10) departments as~~  
 10 ~~follows:~~

- 11 ~~(i) One (1) located in Springdale;~~
- 12 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Elm Springs;~~
- 13 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Johnson;~~
- 14 ~~(iv) One (1) located in Fayetteville;~~
- 15 ~~(v) One (1) located in Elkins;~~
- 16 ~~(vi) One (1) located in West Fork;~~
- 17 ~~(vii) One (1) located in Greenland;~~
- 18 ~~(viii) One (1) located in Prairie Grove;~~
- 19 ~~(ix) One (1) located in Lincoln; and~~
- 20 ~~(x) One (1) located in Farmington.~~

21 ~~(C) The Second District shall be served by four (4) state~~  
 22 ~~district court judges;~~

- 23 ~~(i) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~  
 24 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 1;~~
- 25 ~~(ii) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~  
 26 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 2;~~
- 27 ~~(iii) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~  
 28 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 3;~~  
 29 ~~and~~
- 30 ~~(iv) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~  
 31 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 4.~~

32 ~~(D) The presiding judge of the departments under~~  
 33 ~~subdivision (b)(3)(B) of this section shall be determined by the mutual~~  
 34 ~~agreement of the state district court judges.~~

35 ~~(E) The Second District judges shall be elected~~  
 36 ~~districtwide.~~

1                   ~~(F) The Second District court shall have district-wide~~  
 2 ~~jurisdiction.~~

3                   ~~(2)(A) The Third District shall be composed of the counties of~~  
 4 ~~Garroll and Madison.~~

5                   ~~(B) The Third District shall have three (3) departments as~~  
 6 ~~follows:~~

- 7                             ~~(i) One (1) located in Berryville;~~
- 8                             ~~(ii) One (1) located in Eureka Springs; and~~
- 9                             ~~(iii) One (1) located in Huntsville.~~

10                   ~~(C) The Third District shall be served by one (1) state~~  
 11 ~~district court judge.~~

12                   ~~(D) The Third District judge shall be elected~~  
 13 ~~districtwide.~~

14                   ~~(E) The Third District court shall have district-wide~~  
 15 ~~jurisdiction.~~

16                   ~~(3)(A) The Seventh District shall be composed of the counties of~~  
 17 ~~Franklin and Johnson.~~

18                   ~~(B) The Seventh District shall have six (6) departments as~~  
 19 ~~follows:~~

- 20                             ~~(i) One (1) located in Charleston;~~
- 21                             ~~(ii) One (1) located in Ozark;~~
- 22                             ~~(iii) One (1) located in Altus;~~
- 23                             ~~(iv) One (1) located in Clarksville;~~
- 24                             ~~(v) One (1) located in Coal Hill; and~~
- 25                             ~~(vi) One (1) located in Lamar.~~

26                   ~~(C) The Seventh District shall be served by one (1) state~~  
 27 ~~district court judge.~~

28                   ~~(D) The Seventh District judge shall be elected~~  
 29 ~~districtwide.~~

30                   ~~(E) The Seventh District court shall have district-wide~~  
 31 ~~jurisdiction.~~

32                   ~~(4)(A) The Twenty Seventh District shall be composed of the~~  
 33 ~~counties of Desha and Chicot.~~

34                   ~~(B) The Twenty Seventh District shall have five (5)~~  
 35 ~~departments as follows:~~

- 36                             ~~(i) One (1) located in Dermott;~~

1                   ~~(ii) One (1) located in Eudora;~~  
 2                   ~~(iii) One (1) located in Lake Village;~~  
 3                   ~~(iv) One (1) located in Dumas; and~~  
 4                   ~~(v) One (1) located in McGehee.~~  
 5                   ~~(C) The Twenty-Seventh District shall be served by one (1)~~  
 6 ~~state district court judge.~~  
 7                   ~~(D) The Twenty-Seventh District judge shall be elected~~  
 8 ~~districtwide.~~  
 9                   ~~(E) The Twenty-Seventh District court shall have district-~~  
 10 ~~wide jurisdiction.~~  
 11                   ~~(5)(A) The Thirtieth District shall be composed of Lonoke~~  
 12 ~~County.~~  
 13                   ~~(B) The Thirtieth District shall have seven (7)~~  
 14 ~~departments as follows:~~  
 15                   ~~(i) One (1) located in Gabot;~~  
 16                   ~~(ii) One (1) located in Ward;~~  
 17                   ~~(iii) One (1) located in Austin;~~  
 18                   ~~(iv) One (1) located in Lonoke;~~  
 19                   ~~(v) One (1) located in England;~~  
 20                   ~~(vi) One (1) located in Carlisle; and~~  
 21                   ~~(vii) One (1) located in Allport.~~  
 22                   ~~(C) The Thirtieth District shall be served by one (1)~~  
 23 ~~state district court judge.~~  
 24                   ~~(D) The Thirtieth District judge shall be elected~~  
 25 ~~districtwide.~~  
 26                   ~~(E) The Thirtieth District court shall have district-wide~~  
 27 ~~jurisdiction.~~  
 28                   ~~(6)(A) The Forty-First District shall be composed of Garland~~  
 29 ~~County.~~  
 30                   ~~(B) The Forty-First District shall have three (3)~~  
 31 ~~departments as follows:~~  
 32                   ~~(i) Two (2) located in Hot Springs; and~~  
 33                   ~~(ii) One (1) located in Mountain Pine.~~  
 34                   ~~(C) The Forty-First District shall be served by two (2)~~  
 35 ~~state district court judges.~~  
 36                   ~~(D) The Forty-First District judges shall be elected~~

1 ~~districtwide.~~

2 ~~(E) The Forty First District court shall have district-~~  
3 ~~wide jurisdiction.~~

4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36