

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 552

5 By: Senator Teague
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF LOCAL
9 DISTRICT COURTS INTO STATE DISTRICT COURTS; AND FOR
10 OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF LOCAL
14 DISTRICT COURTS INTO STATE DISTRICT
15 COURTS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1114 is amended to read as follows:
22 16-17-1114. Reorganization of local district courts to state district
23 courts as of January 1, ~~2029~~ 2025.

24 (a)(1) Beginning January 1, ~~2029~~ 2025, the following cities and
25 counties that are currently served by local district courts ~~pursuant to~~ under
26 § 16-17-901 et seq. shall be reorganized as state district courts and served
27 by state district court judges as assigned.

28 (2) The new state district court judgeships created by this
29 section shall become effective January 1, ~~2029~~ 2025, and shall be placed on
30 the ballot to be elected in the ~~2028~~ 2024 nonpartisan judicial election from
31 the newly constructed state district court district.

32 (3) The cities and counties that were previously served by local
33 district courts and will be served by state district courts shall comply with
34 the cost-sharing requirements established in § 16-17-1106, effective January
35 1, ~~2029~~ 2025.

36 (b)(1) The Thirty-Sixth Judicial District shall be composed of the



1 counties of Little River, Sevier, Pike, and Howard.

2 (2) The Thirty-Sixth Judicial District shall have ~~five (5)~~ seven
3 (7) departments as follows:

- 4 (A) One (1) located in Ashdown;
- 5 (B) One (1) located in Foreman;
- 6 (C) One (1) located in Winthrop;
- 7 (D) One (1) located in De Queen; ~~and~~
- 8 (E) One (1) located in Nashville
- 9 (F) One (1) located in Murfreesboro; and
- 10 (G) One (1) located in Glenwood.

11 (3) The Thirty-Sixth Judicial District shall be served by ~~one~~
12 ~~(1)~~ two (2) state district court ~~judge~~ judges.

13 (4) The Thirty-Sixth Judicial District ~~judge~~ judges shall be
14 elected districtwide.

15 (5) The Thirty-Sixth Judicial District court shall have
16 districtwide jurisdiction.

17 ~~(c)(1) The Fortieth District shall be composed of the counties of~~
18 ~~Clark and Pike.~~

19 ~~(2) The Fortieth District shall have six (6) departments as~~
20 ~~follows:~~

- 21 ~~(A) One (1) located in Arkadelphia;~~
- 22 ~~(B) One (1) located in Amity;~~
- 23 ~~(C) One (1) located in Caddo Valley;~~
- 24 ~~(D) One (1) located in Curdon;~~
- 25 ~~(E) One (1) located in Murfreesboro; and~~
- 26 ~~(F) One (1) located in Glenwood.~~

27 ~~(3) The Fortieth District shall be served by one (1) state~~
28 ~~district court judge.~~

29 ~~(4) The Fortieth District judge shall be elected districtwide.~~

30 ~~(5) The Fortieth District court shall have districtwide~~
31 ~~jurisdiction.~~

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34 **APPROVED: 4/9/19**