

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1263

5
6 By: Representatives Steel, Wright

7 Filed with: Interim House Committee on Judiciary
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 For An Act To Be Entitled

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

16 17 18 Subtitle

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

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

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 Arkansas Code § 16-17-1112 is repealed.

30 ~~16-17-1112. Reorganization of local district courts to state district~~
31 ~~courts as of January 1, 2017.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 ~~(i) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~
27 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 1;~~

28 ~~(ii) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~
29 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 2;~~

30 ~~(iii) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~
31 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 3;~~
32 ~~and~~

33 ~~(iv) One (1) judgeship first to be elected in 2016~~
34 ~~and to become effective January 1, 2017, shall be designated as Division 4.~~

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

4 ~~(E) The Second District judges shall be elected~~
5 ~~districtwide.~~

6 ~~(F) The Second District court shall have district wide~~
7 ~~jurisdiction.~~

8 ~~(2)(A) The Third District shall be composed of the counties of~~
9 ~~Carroll and Madison.~~

10 ~~(B) The Third District shall have three (3) departments as~~
11 ~~follows:~~

- 12 ~~(i) One (1) located in Berryville;~~
- 13 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Eureka Springs; and~~
- 14 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Huntsville.~~

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

17 ~~(D) The Third District judge shall be elected~~
18 ~~districtwide.~~

19 ~~(E) The Third District court shall have district wide~~
20 ~~jurisdiction.~~

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

23 ~~(B) The Seventh District shall have six (6) departments as~~
24 ~~follows:~~

- 25 ~~(i) One (1) located in Charleston;~~
- 26 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Ozark;~~
- 27 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Altus;~~
- 28 ~~(iv) One (1) located in Clarksville;~~
- 29 ~~(v) One (1) located in Coal Hill; and~~
- 30 ~~(vi) One (1) located in Lamar.~~

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

33 ~~(D) The Seventh District judge shall be elected~~
34 ~~districtwide.~~

35 ~~(E) The Seventh District court shall have district wide~~
36 ~~jurisdiction.~~

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

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

5 ~~(i) One (1) located in Dermott;~~

6 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Eudora;~~

7 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Lake Village;~~

8 ~~(iv) One (1) located in Dumas; and~~

9 ~~(v) One (1) located in McGehee.~~

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

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

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

16 ~~(5)(A) The Thirtieth District shall be composed of Lonoke~~
17 ~~County.~~

18 ~~(B) The Thirtieth District shall have seven (7)~~
19 ~~departments as follows:~~

20 ~~(i) One (1) located in Cabot;~~

21 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Ward;~~

22 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Austin;~~

23 ~~(iv) One (1) located in Lonoke;~~

24 ~~(v) One (1) located in England;~~

25 ~~(vi) One (1) located in Carlisle; and~~

26 ~~(vii) One (1) located in Allport.~~

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

29 ~~(D) The Thirtieth District judge shall be elected~~
30 ~~districtwide.~~

31 ~~(E) The Thirtieth District court shall have district wide~~
32 ~~jurisdiction.~~

33 ~~(6)(A) The Forty First District shall be composed of Garland~~
34 ~~County.~~

35 ~~(B) The Forty First District shall have three (3)~~
36 ~~departments as follows:~~

1 ~~(i) Two (2) located in Hot Springs; and~~

2 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Mountain Pine.~~

3 ~~(C) The Forty First District shall be served by two (2)~~
4 ~~state district court judges.~~

5 ~~(D) The Forty First District judges shall be elected~~
6 ~~districtwide.~~

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

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11 Referred by the Arkansas House of Representatives

12 Prepared by: BPG/VJF

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