

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1400

4 By: Representatives B. Overbey, Gossage
5 By: Senator G. Stubblefield

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

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF THE LOCAL
9 DISTRICT COURTS TO STATE DISTRICT COURTS IN THE
10 SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

11 CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF THE
12 LOCAL DISTRICT COURTS TO STATE DISTRICT
13 COURTS IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

23
24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1112(b)(3), concerning reorganization
25 of local district courts to state district courts in the Seventh District as
26 of January 1, 2017, is repealed.

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

29 ~~(B) The Seventh District shall have six (6) departments as~~
30 ~~follows:~~

- 31 ~~(i) One (1) located in Charleston;~~
- 32 ~~(ii) One (1) located in Ozark;~~
- 33 ~~(iii) One (1) located in Altus;~~
- 34 ~~(iv) One (1) located in Clarksville;~~
- 35 ~~(v) One (1) located in Coal Hill; and~~
- 36 ~~(vi) One (1) located in Lamar.~~

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

3 ~~(D) The Seventh District judge shall be elected~~
4 ~~districtwide.~~

5 ~~(E) The Seventh District court shall have district wide~~
6 ~~jurisdiction.~~

7
8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 16, Chapter 17, Subchapter 11, is
9 amended to add a new section to read as follows:

10 16-17-1113. Reorganization of local district courts to a state
11 district court of the Seventh Judicial District as of January 1, 2025.

12 (a)(1) Beginning January 1, 2025, the cities and counties of the
13 Seventh Judicial District that are currently served by local district courts
14 under § 16-17-901 et seq. shall be reorganized into a state district court
15 district and served by a state district court judge as provided in subsection
16 (b) of this section.

17 (2) The new state district court judgeship created in the
18 Seventh Judicial District by this section shall become effective January 1,
19 2025, and shall be placed on the ballot to be elected in the 2024 nonpartisan
20 judicial election from the newly constructed state district court district.

21 (3) The cities and counties of the Seventh Judicial District
22 which were previously served by local district courts and will be served by a
23 state district court shall comply with the cost-sharing requirements
24 established in § 16-17-1106, effective January 1, 2025.

25 (b)(1) The Seventh Judicial District shall be composed of the counties
26 of Franklin and Johnson.

27 (2) The Seventh District shall have six (6) departments as
28 follows:

29 (A) One (1) located in Charleston;

30 (B) One (1) located in Ozark;

31 (C) One (1) located in Altus;

32 (D) One (1) located in Clarksville;

33 (E) One (1) located in Coal Hill; and

34 (F) One (1) located in Lamar.

35 (3) The Seventh Judicial District shall be served by one (1)
36 state district court judge.

1 (4) The Seventh Judicial District judge shall be elected
2 districtwide.

3 (5) The Seventh Judicial District court shall have district-wide
4 jurisdiction.

5
6

7 Referred by the Arkansas House of Representatives

8 Prepared by: VJF

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