

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

A Bill

SENATE BILL 615

4
5 By: Senator Hopkins
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 16-10-501 CONCERNING DUTIES
10 OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."
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Subtitle

12
13 "AN ACT CONCERNING DUTIES OF THE
14 JUDICIAL COUNCIL."
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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 16-10-501 is amended to read as follows:

19 "16-10-501. Development of criteria for new judgeships or redistricting.

20 (a) The Arkansas Judicial Council, hereinafter referred to as the
21 council, is authorized and directed to develop criteria for new judgeships or
22 redistricting of the circuit and chancery court districts of this state and to
23 make recommendations to the regular or special session of the General Assembly
24 regarding the number and boundaries of the circuit and chancery court
25 districts in the state, the number and types of judges in each of such
26 districts, and such other matters regarding circuit and chancery courts in the
27 state as it determines to be appropriate.

28 (b) In establishing circuit and chancery court districts of this state,
29 the council shall take into consideration caseload, geographic area to be
30 served by the respective circuit courts and chancery courts, and such other
31 matters as the council determines to be appropriate.

32 (c) The council shall meet on or before November 1 of each even-
33 numbered year to finalize criteria for establishing additional judgeships or
34 redistricting during the next regular session of the General Assembly.

35 (d) A member of the Arkansas Judicial Council who lives in a judicial
36 district that is being considered for modification or a new judgeship under

1 subsection (a) shall not participate in the matter and the appointing
2 authority shall appoint a special member for the purpose of considering the
3 matter."
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5 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
6 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
7 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
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9 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
10 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
11 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
12 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
13 act are declared to be severable.
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15 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
16 hereby repealed.
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