

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

State of Arkansas
83rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2001

As Engrossed: S3/22/01

A Bill

SENATE BILL 791

By: Senator Everett

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY AND RESTATE EXISTING LAW
REGARDING MUNICIPAL COURTS AND TO IMPLEMENT
CHANGES IN MUNICIPAL/DISTRICT COURTS PURSUANT TO
AMENDMENT 80 TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION; TO
PROVIDE FOR A METHOD OF FILLING VACANCIES; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY THE LAW REGARDING MUNICIPAL
COURTS AND TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES IN
MUNICIPAL/DISTRICT COURTS PURSUANT TO
AMENDMENT 80 TO THE ARKANSAS
CONSTITUTION.

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

SECTION 1. (a) All municipal courts now in existence shall be known as district courts and all judges of the former courts will be known as district judges.

(b) District courts shall have the jurisdiction vested in the presently established municipal courts.

(c) All fines, penalties and costs received by the district courts shall continue to be collected and distributed in the manner provided by current laws affecting municipal courts unless and until the General Assembly establishes a new method of distribution.

(d) All salaries, retirement benefits, programs, and monies of judges, clerks, and court employees of municipal courts will continue to be vested

1 and paid to the judges, clerks, and court employees of district courts
2 pending further acts of the General Assembly.

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4 SECTION 2. A vacancy in a district court judgeship shall be filled in
5 the same manner and subject to the same restrictions as for vacancies under
6 Amendment 29 of the Arkansas Constitution.

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8 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
9 General Assembly that with the approval by the voters of Arkansas of
10 Amendment 80 of the Arkansas Constitution, the effectiveness of this act on
11 July 1, 2001 is essential to the operation of the state court system, and
12 that in the event of an extension of the Regular Session, the delay in the
13 effective date of this act beyond July 1, 2001 could work irreparable harm
14 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
15 progress. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being
16 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
17 safety shall become effective from and after July 1, 2001.

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19 /s/ Everett
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