

**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.**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

*As Engrossed: H2/14/07 S2/21/07*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1400

5 By: Representatives Wills, Abernathy, Adcock, Allen, Anderson, T. Baker, Berry, Blount, Bond, T.  
6 Bradford, Breedlove, E. Brown, J. Brown, Burkes, Cash, Cheatham, Cornwell, L. Cowling, D.  
7 Creekmore, Davenport, Davis, Dickinson, S. Dobbins, Dunn, Edwards, L. Evans, Everett, Flowers,  
8 Garner, Gaskill, George, R. Green, Greenberg, Hall, Hardwick, Hardy, Harrelson, Harris, Hawkins,  
9 House, Hoyt, D. Hutchinson, Hyde, Jeffrey, J. Johnson, D. Johnson, Kenney, Kidd, King, Lovell,  
10 Lowery, Pace, Patterson, Pennartz, Pickett, Pierce, Powers, S. Prater, Ragland, Rainey, Reep, Reynolds, J.  
11 Roebuck, Rogers, Saunders, Schulte, L. Smith, Stewart, Sullivan, Sumpter, Wagner, Walters, Webb,  
12 Wells, Wood, Woods, Wyatt  
13 By: Senators Baker, Bisbee, Bookout, Broadway, Bryles, Critcher, Crumbly, Glover, Hendren, B.  
14 Johnson, Laverty, Wilkinson  
15  
16

## For An Act To Be Entitled

17  
18 AN ACT TO CREATE ADDITIONAL CIRCUIT JUDGESHIPS IN  
19 THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, THE NINETEENTH  
20 JUDICIAL DISTRICT-WEST, THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL  
21 DISTRICT, THE TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT,  
22 AND THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT; TO  
23 PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT AND ELECTION OF THE  
24 CIRCUIT JUDGES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
25

## Subtitle

26  
27 AN ACT TO CREATE FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL  
28 CIRCUIT JUDGESHIPS.  
29  
30

31 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
32

33 SECTION 1. The Judicial Resources Assessment Committee has reviewed  
34 the caseloads of various judicial districts and has determined that to ensure  
35 the smooth, efficient, and timely administration of justice additional  
36 circuit judgeships are needed in the Second Judicial District, the Nineteenth



1 Judicial District-West, the Twentieth Judicial District, the Twenty-second  
2 Judicial District, and the Twenty-third Judicial District. This act  
3 authorizes the establishment of five (5) additional circuit judgeships,  
4 articulates the applicable appointment and election process of the additional  
5 circuit judges, and identifies various resources that will be available.

6  
7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-13-1003, concerning judges of the Second  
8 Judicial District, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as  
9 follows:

10 (e)(1) Effective July 1, 2007, there is created in the Second Judicial  
11 District an additional circuit judgeship that shall have jurisdiction in law,  
12 equity, probate, and juvenile matters.

13 (2) The Governor shall appoint a qualified person who is a  
14 resident of the district to temporarily fill the Second Judicial District  
15 circuit judgeship created by subdivision (e)(1) of this section, and the  
16 appointed person shall serve until January 1, 2009, or until a successor has  
17 been elected and qualified.

18 (3)(A) The qualified electors of the district shall elect the  
19 additional circuit judge created by subdivision (e)(1) of this section at the  
20 2008 preferential primary election to take office on January 1, 2009.

21 (B) The additional circuit judge shall be elected from the  
22 district, shall satisfy the same qualifications for holding office, and shall  
23 receive the same salary, expenses, and other allowances as provided by law  
24 for judges of the circuit courts.

25 (C) The circuit judge shall serve for elected terms of six  
26 (6) years.

27 (4) The counties that compose the Second Judicial District shall  
28 provide courtroom and office facilities and supplies for the judge of the  
29 circuit judgeship created by subdivision (e)(1) of this section, which shall  
30 be paid out of the county treasuries in the same manner as other demands  
31 against the counties and out of funds appropriated by the respective quorum  
32 courts of the counties for these purposes.

33 (5) There shall be provided for the judge of the circuit  
34 judgeship created by subdivision (e)(1) of this section a court reporter and  
35 a trial court administrative assistant whose salaries shall be fixed and paid  
36 in the manner provided by law for court reporters and trial court

1 administrative assistants of the circuit courts of this state.

2  
3 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 16-13-2503, concerning judges of the  
4 Twenty-third Judicial District, is amended to add an additional subsection to  
5 read as follows:

6 (c)(1) Effective July 1, 2007, there is created in the Twenty-third  
7 Judicial District an additional circuit judgeship that shall have  
8 jurisdiction in law, equity, probate, and juvenile matters.

9 (2) The Governor shall appoint a qualified person who is a  
10 resident of the district to temporarily fill the Twenty-third Judicial  
11 District circuit judgeship created by subdivision (c)(1) of this section, and  
12 the appointed person shall serve until January 1, 2009, or until a successor  
13 has been elected and qualified.

14 (3)(A) The qualified electors of the district shall elect the  
15 additional circuit judge created by subdivision (c)(1) of this section at the  
16 2008 preferential primary election to take office on January 1, 2009.

17 (B) The additional circuit judge shall be elected from the  
18 district, shall satisfy the same qualifications for holding office, and shall  
19 receive the same salary, expenses, and other allowances as provided by law  
20 for judges of the circuit courts.

21 (C) The circuit judge shall serve for elected terms of six  
22 (6) years.

23 (4) The county that composes the Twenty-third Judicial District  
24 shall provide courtroom and office facilities and supplies for the judge of  
25 the circuit judgeship created by subdivision (c)(1) of this section, which  
26 shall be paid out of the county treasury in the same manner as other demands  
27 against the county and out of funds appropriated by the quorum court of the  
28 county for these purposes.

29 (5) There shall be provided for the judge of the circuit  
30 judgeship created by subdivision (c)(1) of this section a court reporter and  
31 a trial court administrative assistant whose salaries shall be fixed and paid  
32 in the manner provided by law for court reporters and trial court  
33 administrative assistants of the circuit courts of this state.

34  
35 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 16-13-2803, concerning judges of the  
36 Twentieth Judicial District, is amended to add an additional subsection to

1 read as follows:

2 (f)(1) Effective July 1, 2007, there is created in the Twentieth  
3 Judicial District an additional circuit judgeship that shall have  
4 jurisdiction in law, equity, probate, and juvenile matters.

5 (2) The Governor shall appoint a qualified person who is a  
6 resident of the district to temporarily fill the Twentieth Judicial District  
7 circuit judgeship created by subdivision (f)(1) of this section, and the  
8 appointed person shall serve until January 1, 2009, or until a successor has  
9 been elected and qualified.

10 (3)(A) The qualified electors of the district shall elect the  
11 additional circuit judge created by subdivision (f)(1) of this section at the  
12 2008 preferential primary election to take office on January 1, 2009.

13 (B) The additional circuit judge shall be elected from the  
14 district, shall satisfy the same qualifications for holding office, and shall  
15 receive the same salary, expenses, and other allowances as provided by law  
16 for judges of the circuit courts.

17 (C) The circuit judge shall serve for elected terms of six  
18 (6) years.

19 (4) The counties that compose the Twentieth Judicial District  
20 shall provide courtroom and office facilities and supplies for the judge of  
21 the circuit judgeship created by subdivision (f)(1) of this section, which  
22 shall be paid out of the county treasuries in the same manner as other  
23 demands against the counties and out of funds appropriated by the respective  
24 quorum courts of the counties for these purposes.

25 (5) There shall be provided for the judge of the circuit  
26 judgeship created by subdivision (f)(1) of this section a court reporter and  
27 a trial court administrative assistant whose salaries shall be fixed and paid  
28 in the manner provided by law for court reporters and trial court  
29 administrative assistants of the circuit courts of this state.

30

31 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 16-13-3002, concerning judges of the  
32 Nineteenth Judicial District-West, is amended to add an additional subsection  
33 to read as follows:

34 (h)(1) Effective January 1, 2009, there is created in the Nineteenth  
35 Judicial District-West an additional circuit judgeship that shall have  
36 jurisdiction in law, equity, probate, and juvenile matters.

1           (2)(A) The qualified electors of the district shall elect the  
2 additional circuit judge created by subdivision (h)(1) of this section at the  
3 2008 preferential primary election to take office on January 1, 2009.

4           (B) The additional circuit judge shall be elected from the  
5 district, shall satisfy the same qualifications for holding office, and shall  
6 receive the same salary, expenses, and other allowances as provided by law  
7 for judges of the circuit courts.

8           (C) The circuit judge shall serve for elected terms of six  
9 (6) years.

10           (3) The county that composes the Nineteenth Judicial District-  
11 West shall provide courtroom and office facilities and supplies for the judge  
12 of the circuit judgeship created by subdivision (h)(1) of this section, which  
13 shall be paid out of the county treasury in the same manner as other demands  
14 against the county and out of funds appropriated by the quorum court of the  
15 county for these purposes.

16           (4) There shall be provided for the judge of the circuit  
17 judgeship created by subdivision (h)(1) of this section a court reporter and  
18 a trial court administrative assistant whose salaries shall be fixed and paid  
19 in the manner provided by law for court reporters and trial court  
20 administrative assistants of the circuit courts of this state.

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22           SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 16-13-3103, concerning judges of the  
23 Twenty-second Judicial District, is amended to add an additional subsection  
24 to read as follows:

25           (e)(1) Effective January 1, 2009, there is created in the Twenty-  
26 second Judicial District an additional circuit judgeship that shall have  
27 jurisdiction in law, equity, probate, and juvenile matters.

28           (2)(A) The qualified electors of the district shall elect the  
29 additional circuit judge created by subdivision (e)(1) of this section at the  
30 2008 preferential primary election to take office on January 1, 2009.

31           (B) The additional circuit judge shall be elected from the  
32 district, shall satisfy the same qualifications for holding office, and shall  
33 receive the same salary, expenses, and other allowances as provided by law  
34 for judges of the circuit courts.

35           (C) The circuit judge shall serve for elected terms of six  
36 (6) years.

