

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1225

5 By: Representative Tollett  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF THE STATE  
9 DISTRICT COURT SYSTEM; CONCERNING THE CURRENT  
10 FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; AND FOR  
11 OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 CONCERNING THE REORGANIZATION OF THE  
16 STATE DISTRICT COURT SYSTEM; AND  
17 CONCERNING THE CURRENT FIFTEENTH AND  
18 SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.  
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20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1113(g), concerning the Fifteenth  
24 Judicial District, is repealed as of December 31, 2024.

25 ~~(g)(1) The Fifteenth Judicial District shall be composed of the~~  
26 ~~counties of Jackson and Woodruff.~~

27 ~~(2) The Fifteenth District shall have eight (8) departments as~~  
28 ~~follows:~~

- 29 ~~(A) One (1) located in Newport;~~
- 30 ~~(B) One (1) located in Diaz;~~
- 31 ~~(C) One (1) located in Swifton;~~
- 32 ~~(D) One (1) located in Tuckerman;~~
- 33 ~~(E) One (1) located in Augusta;~~
- 34 ~~(F) One (1) located in Cotton Plant;~~
- 35 ~~(G) One (1) located in McGrory; and~~
- 36 ~~(H) One (1) located in Patterson.~~



1           ~~(3) The Fifteenth Judicial District shall be served by one (1)~~  
 2 ~~state district court judge.~~

3           ~~(4) The Fifteenth Judicial District judge shall be elected~~  
 4 ~~districtwide.~~

5           ~~(5) The Fifteenth Judicial District court shall have~~  
 6 ~~districtwide jurisdiction.~~

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 8           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1115 is amended to read as follows:  
 9           16-17-1115. Reorganization of local district courts to state district  
 10 courts as of January 1, 2025.

11           (a)(1) Beginning January 1, 2025, the following cities and counties,  
 12 currently being served by a local district court under § 16-17-901 et seq.  
 13 shall be reorganized as a state district court district and served by state  
 14 district court judges as assigned.

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

19           (3) The cities and counties that were previously served by local  
 20 district courts and will be served by state district courts shall comply with  
 21 the cost-sharing requirements established in § 16-17-1106, effective January  
 22 1, 2025.

23           (b)(1) The Thirteenth Judicial District is composed of the counties of  
 24 Stone and Cleburne.

25           (2) The Thirteenth Judicial District has five (5) departments as  
 26 follows:

- 27                   (A) One (1) located in Heber Springs;
- 28                   (B) One (1) located in Greers Ferry;
- 29                   (C) One (1) located in Concord;
- 30                   (D) One (1) located in Quitman; and
- 31                   (E) One (1) located in Mountain View.

32           (3) The Thirteenth Judicial District is served by one (1) state  
 33 district court judge.

34           (4) The Thirteenth Judicial District judge is elected  
 35 districtwide.

36           (5) The Thirteenth Judicial District court has districtwide

1 jurisdiction.

2 (c)(1) The Fifteenth Judicial District shall be composed of Jackson  
 3 County.

4 (2) The Fifteenth Judicial District shall have four (4)  
 5 departments as follows:

6 (A) One (1) located in Newport;

7 (B) One (1) located in Diaz;

8 (C) One (1) located in Swifton; and

9 (D) One (1) located in Tuckerman.

10 (3) The Fifteenth Judicial District shall be served by one (1)  
 11 state district court judge.

12 (4) The Fifteenth Judicial District judge shall be elected  
 13 districtwide.

14 (5) The Fifteenth Judicial District court shall have  
 15 districtwide jurisdiction.

16 ~~(e)(1)(d)(1)~~ The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be composed of the  
 17 ~~counties of Monroe and Arkansas~~ County.

18 (2) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall have ~~seven (7)~~ four  
 19 (4) departments as follows:

20 (A) One (1) located in Stuttgart;

21 (B) One (1) located in De Witt;

22 (C) One (1) located in Gillett; and

23 (D) One (1) located in St. Charles;

24 ~~(E) One (1) located in Brinkley;~~

25 ~~(F) One (1) located in Clarendon; and~~

26 ~~(G) One (1) located in Holly Grove.~~

27 (3) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be served by one (1)  
 28 state district court judge.

29 (4) The Sixteenth Judicial District judge shall be elected  
 30 districtwide.

31 (5) The Sixteenth Judicial District court shall have  
 32 districtwide jurisdiction.

33 (e)(1) The Forty-Second Judicial District is composed of the counties  
 34 of Monroe and Woodruff.

35 (2) The Forty-Second Judicial District shall have seven (7)  
 36 departments as follows:

