

# THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE



**Kathleen Passidomo**  
*President of the Senate*



**Paul Renner**  
*Speaker of the House of  
Representatives*

March 5, 2024

The Honorable Paul Renner  
Speaker, House of Representatives

The Honorable Kathleen Passidomo  
President of the Senate

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madam President:

Your Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on HB 5401, same being:

An act relating to Judges.

having met, and after full and free conference, do recommend to their respective houses as follows:

1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment 921790.
2. That the Senate and House of Representatives adopt the Conference Committee Amendment attached hereto, and by reference made a part of this report.

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*Representative Thomas J. Leek, Chair*

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*Representative Thad Altman, At-Large*

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*Representative Mike Beltran*

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*Representative Demi Busatta Cabrera, At-Large*

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*Representative Kevin D. Chambliss, At-Large*

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*Representative Fentrice Driskell, At-Large*

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*Representative Randy Fine, At-Large*

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*Representative Michael Gottlieb, At-Large*

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*Representative Tommy Gregory, At-Large*

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*Representative Jeff Holcomb*

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*Representative Berny Jacques*

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*Representative Stan McClain, At-Large*

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*Representative Bobby Payne, At-Large*

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*Representative Mike Redondo*

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*Representative Bob Rommel, At-Large*

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*Representative Kelly Skidmore, At-Large*

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*Representative John Snyder*

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*Representative Cyndi Stevenson, At-Large*

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*Representative Susan L. Valdés, At-Large*

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*Representative Robert Charles Brannan III, Chair*

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*Representative Robert Alexander Andrade, At-Large*

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*Representative Christopher Benjamin, At-Large*

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*Representative Jennifer Canady, At-Large*

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*Representative Charles Wesley Clemons, Sr., At-Large*

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*Representative Tom Fabricio*

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*Representative Sam Garrison, At-Large*

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*Representative Michael Grant, At-Large*

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*Representative Dianne Hart*

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*Representative Christine Hunschofsky, At-Large*

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*Representative Ralph E. Massullo, MD, At-Large*

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*Representative Lawrence McClure, At-Large*

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*Representative Daniel Perez, At-Large*

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*Representative Felicia Simone Robinson, At-Large*

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*Representative Jason Shoaf, At-Large*

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*Representative David Smith*

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*Representative Paula A. Stark*

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*Representative Josie Tomkow, At-Large*

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*Representative Katherine Waldron*

The Honorable Paul Renner  
The Honorable Kathleen Passidomo  
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*Representative Patricia H. Williams, At-Large*

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*Representative Marie Paule Woodson, At-Large*

**Managers on the part of the House of Representatives**

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*Senator Doug Broxson, Chair*

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*Senator Bryan Avila*

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*Senator Lori Berman*

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*Senator Jim Boyd*

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*Senator Jason Brodeur*

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*Senator Colleen Burton*

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*Senator Jay Collins*

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*Senator Nick DiCeglie*

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*Senator Erin Grall*

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*Senator Gayle Harrell*

---

*Senator Travis Hutson, At-Large*

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*Senator Jonathan Martin*

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*Senator Rosalind Osgood*

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*Senator Jason W. B. Pizzo*

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*Senator Bobby Powell*

---

*Senator Darryl Ervin Rouson, At-Large*

---

*Senator Linda Stewart*

---

*Senator Victor M. Torres*

---

*Senator Tom A. Wright*

---

*Senator Ben Albritton, At-Large*

---

*Senator Dennis Baxley, At-Large*

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*Senator Lauren Book, At-Large*

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*Senator Jennifer Bradley*

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*Senator Danny Burgess*

---

*Senator Alexis Calatayud*

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*Senator Tracie Davis*

---

*Senator Ileana Garcia*

---

*Senator Joe Gruters*

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*Senator Ed Hooper*

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*Senator Shevrin D. Jones*

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*Senator Debbie Mayfield, At-Large*

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*Senator Keith Perry, At-Large*

---

*Senator Tina Scott Polsky*

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*Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez*

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*Senator Corey Simon*

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*Senator Geraldine F. Thompson*

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*Senator Jay Trumbull*

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*Senator Clay Yarborough*

**Conferees on the part of the Senate**

## **SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION**

The Conference Committee Amendment for HB 5401, relating to Judges, amends s. 26.031, F.S., and s. 34.022, F.S., to establish two new circuit court judgeships (one in the First Judicial Circuit and one in the Twentieth Judicial Circuit) and seven new county court judgeships (three in Orange County, two in Hillsborough County, one in Santa Rosa County, and one in Columbia County).

The Supreme Court issued Order No. SC2023-1586, dated November 30, 2023, certifying the need for one additional circuit court judge (Twentieth Circuit) and five additional county court judges (three in Orange County and two in Hillsborough County).

The amendment conforms to HB 5001, the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, which includes \$3,749,038 in General Revenue funding, and authorizes twenty full-time equivalent positions with associated salary rate of 2,219,713, for the newly established judgeships and associated judicial assistants and attorney staffing.

The amendment is effective July 1, 2024.