

By Senator Dudley

25-966-98

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to the judiciary; amending s.  
26.031, F.S.; increasing the number of judges  
for specified judicial circuits; amending s.  
34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of judges  
for specified county courts; providing for the  
filling of vacancies occurring as a result of  
the creation of judicial offices; providing  
effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 26.031, Florida Statutes, as  
amended by section 1 of chapter 97-257, Laws of Florida, is  
amended to read:

26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.--The  
number of circuit judges in each circuit shall be as follows:

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
(1) First.....	19
(2) Second.....	12
(3) Third.....	<u>6</u> 5
(4) Fourth.....	<u>30</u> <del>29</del>
(5) Fifth.....	20
(6) Sixth.....	<u>39</u> 37
(7) Seventh.....	21
(8) Eighth.....	10
(9) Ninth.....	<u>34</u> <del>33</del>
(10) Tenth.....	<u>19</u> <del>18</del>
(11) Eleventh.....	70
(12) Twelfth.....	<u>18</u> <del>17</del>

1 (13) Thirteenth.....34 ~~33~~

2 (14) Fourteenth..... 9

3 (15) Fifteenth.....31

4 (16) Sixteenth..... 4

5 (17) Seventeenth.....48 ~~46~~

6 (18) Eighteenth.....22 ~~21~~

7 (19) Nineteenth.....14 ~~13~~

8 (20) Twentieth.....21 ~~20~~

9 Section 2. Section 34.022, Florida Statutes, as  
 10 amended by section 2 of chapter 97-257, Laws of Florida, is  
 11 amended to read:

12 34.022 Number of county court judges for each  
 13 county.--The number of county court judges in each county  
 14 shall be as follows:

16 COUNTY	TOTAL
17 (1) Alachua.....	5
18 (2) Baker.....	1
19 (3) Bay.....	3
20 (4) Bradford.....	1
21 (5) Brevard.....	7
22 (6) Broward.....	<u>26</u> <del>25</del>
23 (7) Calhoun.....	1
24 (8) Charlotte.....	2
25 (9) Citrus.....	1
26 (10) Clay.....	2
27 (11) Collier.....	3
28 (12) Columbia.....	1
29 (13) Dade.....	41
30 (14) DeSoto.....	1
31 (15) Dixie.....	1

**CODING:**Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1	(16)	Duval.....	<u>14</u> <del>13</del>
2	(17)	Escambia.....	5
3	(18)	Flagler.....	1
4	(19)	Franklin.....	1
5	(20)	Gadsden.....	1
6	(21)	Gilchrist.....	1
7	(22)	Glades.....	1
8	(23)	Gulf.....	1
9	(24)	Hamilton.....	1
10	(25)	Hardee.....	1
11	(26)	Hendry.....	1
12	(27)	Hernando.....	1
13	(28)	Highlands.....	1
14	(29)	Hillsborough.....	<u>14</u> <del>13</del>
15	(30)	Holmes.....	1
16	(31)	Indian River.....	2
17	(32)	Jackson.....	1
18	(33)	Jefferson.....	1
19	(34)	Lafayette.....	1
20	(35)	Lake.....	2
21	(36)	Lee.....	6
22	(37)	Leon.....	<u>5</u> <del>4</del>
23	(38)	Levy.....	1
24	(39)	Liberty.....	1
25	(40)	Madison.....	1
26	(41)	Manatee.....	3
27	(42)	Marion.....	3
28	(43)	Martin.....	2
29	(44)	Monroe.....	4
30	(45)	Nassau.....	1
31	(46)	Okaloosa.....	2

1 (47) Okeechobee.....1  
2 (48) Orange.....14  
3 (49) Osceola.....3  
4 (50) Palm Beach.....17  
5 (51) Pasco.....3  
6 (52) Pinellas.....13  
7 (53) Polk.....7 6  
8 (54) Putnam.....1  
9 (55) St. Johns.....2  
10 (56) St. Lucie.....3  
11 (57) Santa Rosa.....2  
12 (58) Sarasota.....4  
13 (59) Seminole.....5  
14 (60) Sumter.....1  
15 (61) Suwannee.....1  
16 (62) Taylor.....1  
17 (63) Union.....1  
18 (64) Volusia.....9  
19 (65) Wakulla.....1  
20 (66) Walton.....1  
21 (67) Washington.....1

22 Section 3. The judges filling new offices created by  
23 this act shall be elected in the nonpartisan elections held in  
24 1998 and shall take office on the first Tuesday after the  
25 first Monday in January 1999.

26 Section 4. This act shall take effect on the first  
27 Tuesday after the first Monday in January 1999, except that  
28 this section and section 3 of this act shall take effect upon  
29 becoming a law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides 13 new circuit court judges and 5 county court judges to be elected in nonpartisan elections held in 1998 and to take office on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January 1999.