

By the Committees on Ways and Means; Justice Appropriations; Judiciary; and Senator Crist

576-2231-05

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to judges; amending s. 26.031,

3 F.S.; revising the number of circuit court

4 judges in certain circuits; amending s. 34.022,

5 F.S.; revising the number of county court

6 judges in certain counties; amending s. 35.06,

7 F.S.; revising the number of district court

8 judges in certain district courts of appeal;

9 providing for appointment or election of new

10 judges created by the act; providing

11 legislative findings; requiring the Secretary

12 of State to qualify candidates for the 2006

13 election; providing effective dates.

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

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17 Section 1. Section 26.031, Florida Statutes, is

18 amended to read:

19 26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.--The

20 number of circuit judges in each circuit shall be as follows:

21

22 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
23 (1) First.....	<u>22</u> 21
24 (2) Second.....	<u>16</u> 15
25 (3) Third.....	6
26 (4) Fourth.....	31
27 (5) Fifth.....	<u>26</u> 25
28 (6) Sixth.....	<u>42</u> 41
29 (7) Seventh.....	24
30 (8) Eighth.....	12
31 (9) Ninth.....	38

1	(10) Tenth.....	<u>23</u> 22
2	(11) Eleventh.....	<u>75</u> 74
3	(12) Twelfth.....	19
4	(13) Thirteenth.....	<u>39</u> 37
5	(14) Fourteenth.....	9
6	(15) Fifteenth.....	34
7	(16) Sixteenth.....	4
8	(17) Seventeenth.....	<u>54</u> 53
9	(18) Eighteenth.....	24
10	(19) Nineteenth.....	15
11	(20) Twentieth.....	<u>24</u> 23
12	Section 2. Effective January 2, 2007, section 26.031,	
13	Florida Statutes, as amended by this act, is amended to read:	
14	26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.--The	
15	number of circuit judges in each circuit shall be as follows:	
16		
17	JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
18	(1) First.....	22
19	(2) Second.....	16
20	(3) Third.....	6
21	(4) Fourth.....	31
22	(5) Fifth.....	<u>28</u> 26
23	(6) Sixth.....	<u>43</u> 42
24	(7) Seventh.....	24
25	(8) Eighth.....	12
26	(9) Ninth.....	<u>39</u> 38
27	(10) Tenth.....	<u>24</u> 23
28	(11) Eleventh.....	<u>77</u> 75
29	(12) Twelfth.....	19
30	(13) Thirteenth.....	<u>40</u> 39
31	(14) Fourteenth.....	9

1	(15) Fifteenth.....	34
2	(16) Sixteenth.....	4
3	(17) Seventeenth.....	<u>56</u> 54
4	(18) Eighteenth.....	24
5	(19) Nineteenth.....	15
6	(20) Twentieth.....	24
7	Section 3. Section 34.022, Florida Statutes, is	
8	amended to read:	
9	34.022 Number of county court judges for each	
10	county.--The number of county court judges in each county	
11	shall be as follows:	
12		
13	COUNTY	TOTAL
14	(1) Alachua.....	5
15	(2) Baker.....	1
16	(3) Bay.....	3
17	(4) Bradford.....	1
18	(5) Brevard.....	<u>9</u> 8
19	(6) Broward.....	<u>27</u> 26
20	(7) Calhoun.....	1
21	(8) Charlotte.....	2
22	(9) Citrus.....	1
23	(10) Clay.....	2
24	(11) Collier.....	3
25	(12) Columbia.....	1
26	(13) DeSoto.....	1
27	(14) Dixie.....	1
28	(15) Duval.....	<u>16</u> 15
29	(16) Escambia.....	5
30	(17) Flagler.....	1
31	(18) Franklin.....	1

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

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

19 Section 4. Effective January 2, 2007, section 34.022,
20 Florida Statutes, as amended by this act, is amended to read:

21 34.022 Number of county court judges for each
22 county.--The number of county court judges in each county
23 shall be as follows:

24			
25	COUNTY		TOTAL
26	(1)	Alachua.....	5
27	(2)	Baker.....	1
28	(3)	Bay.....	3
29	(4)	Bradford.....	1
30	(5)	Brevard.....	<u>10</u> 9
31	(6)	Broward.....	<u>29</u> 27

1	(7) Calhoun.....	1
2	(8) Charlotte.....	2
3	(9) Citrus.....	1
4	(10) Clay.....	2
5	(11) Collier.....	3
6	(12) Columbia.....	1
7	(13) DeSoto.....	1
8	(14) Dixie.....	1
9	(15) Duval.....	16
10	(16) Escambia.....	5
11	(17) Flagler.....	1
12	(18) Franklin.....	1
13	(19) Gadsden.....	1
14	(20) Gilchrist.....	1
15	(21) Glades.....	1
16	(22) Gulf.....	1
17	(23) Hamilton.....	1
18	(24) Hardee.....	1
19	(25) Hendry.....	1
20	(26) Hernando.....	1
21	(27) Highlands.....	1
22	(28) Hillsborough.....	<u>17</u> 16
23	(29) Holmes.....	1
24	(30) Indian River.....	2
25	(31) Jackson.....	1
26	(32) Jefferson.....	1
27	(33) Lafayette.....	1
28	(34) Lake.....	2
29	(35) Lee.....	7
30	(36) Leon.....	5
31	(37) Levy.....	1

1	(38)	Liberty.....	1
2	(39)	Madison.....	1
3	(40)	Manatee.....	3
4	(41)	Marion.....	3
5	(42)	Martin.....	2
6	(43)	Miami-Dade.....	41
7	(44)	Monroe.....	4
8	(45)	Nassau.....	1
9	(46)	Okaloosa.....	3
10	(47)	Okeechobee.....	1
11	(48)	Orange.....	15
12	(49)	Osceola.....	3
13	(50)	Palm Beach.....	17
14	(51)	Pasco.....	<u>6</u> 5
15	(52)	Pinellas.....	<u>16</u> 15
16	(53)	Polk.....	9
17	(54)	Putnam.....	2
18	(55)	St. Johns.....	2
19	(56)	St. Lucie.....	3
20	(57)	Santa Rosa.....	2
21	(58)	Sarasota.....	5
22	(59)	Seminole.....	5
23	(60)	Sumter.....	1
24	(61)	Suwannee.....	1
25	(62)	Taylor.....	1
26	(63)	Union.....	1
27	(64)	Volusia.....	9
28	(65)	Wakulla.....	1
29	(66)	Walton.....	1
30	(67)	Washington.....	1
31			

1 Section 5. Section 35.06, Florida Statutes, is amended
2 to read:

3 35.06 Organization of district courts of appeal.--A
4 district court of appeal shall be organized in each of the
5 five appellate districts to be named District Court of Appeal,
6 District. The number of judges of each district court of
7 appeal shall be as follows:

8 (1) In the first district there shall be 15 judges.

9 (2) In the second district there shall be 15 ~~14~~
10 judges.

11 (3) In the third district there shall be 11 judges.

12 (4) In the fourth district there shall be 12 judges.

13 (5) In the fifth district there shall be 11 ~~10~~ judges.

14 Section 6. (1) The judicial offices created in
15 sections 1 and 3 of this act shall be filled through
16 appointment by the Governor. Judges appointed as provided in
17 this subsection shall take office for a term beginning on
18 January 2, 2006.

19 (2)(a) The judicial offices created in sections 2 and
20 4 of this act may not be appointed by the Governor but shall
21 be filled by election in 2006 pursuant to chapter 105, Florida
22 Statutes. Candidates for those judicial offices shall qualify
23 as provided in chapter 105, Florida Statutes.

24 (b) The Legislature finds that no emergency exists and
25 that public business does not require immediate appointment of
26 the judicial offices created in sections 2 and 4 of this act
27 prior to the effective date of those sections.

28 (c) Notwithstanding the effective dates of sections 2
29 and 4 of this act, the creation of the judicial offices in
30 those sections shall constitute vacancies in office for
31 purposes of qualifying for the 2006 general election.

1 Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in
2 this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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4 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
5 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
6 CS/CS Senate Bill 2048

7 The date on which the elected judgeships are created is
8 delayed until the date they will actually take office. A
9 finding is made that no emergency exists that would require
10 the elected judges to be appointed prior to the election. The
11 bill clarifies that the candidates for the elected judgeships
12 will qualify in 2006.
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