

By Senator Crist

12-1149B-06

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 the election of new circuit and

10 county court judges created by the act in the

11 2006 general election; providing legislative

12 findings; providing that the circuit and county

13 court judicial offices created by the act

14 constitute vacancies in office for purposes of

15 qualifying for the 2006 general election;

16 providing an effective date.

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

20 Section 1. Section 26.031, Florida Statutes, as

21 amended by section 2 of chapter 2005-150, Laws of Florida, and

22 section 1 of chapter 2005-356, Laws of Florida, is amended to

23 read:

24 26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.--The

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

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
(1) First.....	<u>24</u> 22
(2) Second.....	<u>17</u> 16
(3) Third.....	7
(4) Fourth.....	<u>35</u> 32

1	(5) Fifth.....	<u>32</u>	28
2	(6) Sixth.....	<u>45</u>	44
3	(7) Seventh.....	<u>28</u>	26
4	(8) Eighth.....		13
5	(9) Ninth.....	<u>43</u>	40
6	(10) Tenth.....	<u>28</u>	26
7	(11) Eleventh.....	<u>81</u>	77
8	(12) Twelfth.....	<u>21</u>	19
9	(13) Thirteenth.....	<u>45</u>	41
10	(14) Fourteenth.....	<u>11</u>	10
11	(15) Fifteenth.....		35
12	(16) Sixteenth.....		4
13	(17) Seventeenth.....	<u>59</u>	56
14	(18) Eighteenth.....	<u>26</u>	25
15	(19) Nineteenth.....	<u>19</u>	18
16	(20) Twentieth.....	<u>31</u>	25

17 Section 2. Section 34.022, Florida Statutes, as
18 amended by section 4 of chapter 2005-150, Laws of Florida, and
19 section 2 of chapter 2005-356, Laws of Florida, is amended to
20 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.....		4
29	(4) Bradford.....		1
30	(5) Brevard.....	<u>12</u>	9
31	(6) Broward.....	<u>32</u>	28

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

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

1 Section 3. 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 13 ~~12~~
13 judges.

14 (5) In the fifth district there shall be 10 judges.

15 Section 4. (1) The Governor may not fill the circuit
16 and county court judicial offices created in sections 1 and 2
17 of this act by appointment, but those offices shall be filled
18 by election in the 2006 general election pursuant to chapter
19 105, Florida Statutes. Candidates for the circuit and county
20 court judicial offices created in sections 1 and 2 of this act
21 shall qualify as provided in chapter 105, Florida Statutes.

22 (2) The Legislature finds that an emergency does not
23 exist and the public business does not require immediate
24 appointment of the circuit and county court judicial offices
25 created in sections 1 and 2 of this act.

26 (3) The circuit and county court judicial offices
27 created in sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute vacancies
28 in office for purposes of qualifying for the 2006 general
29 election.

30 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
31

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

SENATE SUMMARY

Increases the number of circuit court judges in certain circuits and increases the number of county court judges in certain counties. Increases the number of district court judges in the second and fourth district courts of appeal. Provides for filling the offices of the new circuit and county court judges in the 2006 general election.