

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to county-funded court employees; amending
 3 s. 29.0081, F.S.; providing that the county is considered
 4 the employer of county-funded court employees; providing
 5 that county-funded court employees and other county
 6 employees may be aggregated for purposes of a flexible
 7 benefits plan; providing an effective date.

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

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 11 Section 1. Section 29.0081, Florida Statutes, is amended
 12 to read:

13 29.0081 County funding of additional court personnel.--

14 (1) A county and the chief judge of a judicial circuit
 15 that includes that county may enter into an agreement under
 16 which the county funds personnel positions to assist in the
 17 operation of the circuit.

18 (2) The agreement shall, at a minimum, provide that:

19 (a) Funding for the positions is provided on at least a
 20 court fiscal-year basis.

21 (b) The personnel whose employment is funded under the
 22 agreement ~~are employees of the judicial circuit and~~ are hired,
 23 supervised, managed, and fired by personnel of the judicial
 24 circuit. The county shall be considered the employer for
 25 purposes of s. 440.10 and chapter 443. Employees funded by the
 26 county under this section and other county employees may be
 27 aggregated for purposes of a flexible benefits plan pursuant to
 28 s. 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

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29 (c) The positions terminate upon the expiration of, or
30 substantial breach of, the agreement or upon the expiration of
31 county funding for the positions.

32 (3) Positions funded under this section shall be full-time
33 equivalent positions of the judicial circuit but shall not count
34 against any formula or similar process used by the Office of the
35 State Courts Administrator to determine personnel needs or
36 levels of a judicial circuit.

37 (4) Nothing in this section obligates the state to fund
38 any personnel positions.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.