

House Bill No. 1865

An act relating to the judiciary; amending s. 26.031, F.S.; increasing the number of judges in specified judicial circuits; amending s. 34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of judges in specified county courts; providing for appointment by the Governor; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), (10), (11), (13), (15), (17), (18), and (20) of section 26.031, Florida Statutes, are 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	<u>21</u> 20
(2) Second	<u>15</u> 13
(4) Fourth	<u>31</u> 30
(5) Fifth	<u>23</u> 22
(6) Sixth	<u>40</u> 39
(7) Seventh	<u>23</u> 22
(9) Ninth	<u>36</u> 35
(10) Tenth	<u>20</u> 19
(11) Eleventh	<u>72</u> 71
(13) Thirteenth	<u>36</u> 35
(15) Fifteenth	<u>33</u> 32
(17) Seventeenth	<u>51</u> 49
(18) Eighteenth	<u>23</u> 22
(20) Twentieth	<u>22</u> 21

Section 2. Current subsections (5), (6), (16), (29), (36), (46), (48), (51), (52), (53), and (58) of section 34.022, Florida Statutes, are amended, current subsection (13) of said section is renumbered as subsection (43) and amended, and subsections (14) through (43) of said section are renumbered as subsections (13) through (42), respectively, to read:

34.022 Number of county court judges for each county.—The number of county court judges in each county shall be as follows:

COUNTY	TOTAL
(5) Brevard	<u>8</u> 7
(6) Broward	<u>26</u> 25
(15)(16) Duval	<u>15</u> 14
(28)(29) Hillsborough	<u>15</u> 14
(35)(36) Lee	<u>7</u> 6
(43)(43) <u>Miami-Dade</u> Dade	41
(46) Okaloosa	<u>3</u> 2
(48) Orange	<u>15</u> 14
(51) Pasco	<u>4</u> 3
(52) Pinellas	<u>14</u> 13
(53) Polk	<u>9</u> 8
(58) Sarasota	<u>5</u> 4

Section 3. The judges filling new offices created by this act shall be appointed by the Governor and shall take office for a term beginning on January 2, 2002.

Section 4. In addition to the funding provided in the General Appropriations Act for the 2001-2002 fiscal year for creating 26 additional judgeships, effective January 1, 2002, the sum of \$119,702 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund and 2 additional positions are authorized in the state courts system for the additional judgeships created by this act. It is the intent of the Legislature that this appropriation be annualized in the following fiscal year.

Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 19, 2001.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 19, 2001.