

1 MTU9HW-1

2 By Representative Hill

3 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund

4 First Read: 21-Mar-23

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#### SYNOPSIS:

This bill would create three additional circuit judgeships and two additional district judgeships to be funded out of the State General Fund in Fiscal Year 2024 as follows: an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 4, in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit comprised of Lauderdale County; an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 4, in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit comprised of Autauga, Chilton, and Elmore Counties; an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 6, in the Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit comprised of Baldwin County; an additional district judgeship, designated as District Judgedship Number 3, in Baldwin County; and an additional district judgeship, designated as District Judgeship Number 2, in DeKalb County.

This bill would create three additional circuit judgeships and two additional district judgeships to be funded out of the State General Fund in Fiscal Year 2025 as follows: an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 7, in the Sixth Judicial Circuit comprised of Tuscaloosa County; an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 9, in the Twenty-third Judicial



Circuit comprised of Madison County; an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 4, in the Thirty-seventh Judicial Circuit comprised of Lee County; an additional district judgeship, designated as District Judgeship Number 6, in Mobile County; and an additional district judgeship, designated as District Judgeship Number 3, in Shelby County.

This bill would create two additional circuit judgeships and one additional district judgeship to be funded out of the State General Fund in Fiscal Year 2026 as follows: an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 5, in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit comprised of Autauga, Chilton, and Elmore Counties; an additional circuit judgeship, designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 7, in the Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit comprised of Baldwin County; and an additional district judgeship, designated as District Judgeship Number 5, in Madison County.

This bill would provide for the authority of the judges and for the compensation and benefits of the judges.

54 A BILL
55 TO BE ENTITLED

56 AN ACT



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To provide for additional circuit judgeships and additional district judgeships to be funded out of the State General Fund in Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, and 2026; and to provide for the authority of the judges and for the compensation and benefits of the judges.

- 63 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
- Section 1.(a)(1) There is created an additional circuit judgeship for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit which shall be designated as Judgeship Number 4.
  - (2) There is created an additional circuit judgeship for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit which shall be designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 4. The judge elected to Judgeship Number 4 may reside in any county within the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. The judge occupying Judgeship Number 4 shall be assigned to the domestic relations division of the circuit.
- 73 (3) There is created an additional circuit judgeship
  74 for the Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit which shall be
  75 designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 6.
  - (4) There is created an additional district judgeship for Baldwin County which shall be designated as District Judgeship Number 3.
- 79 (5) There is created an additional district judgeship 80 for DeKalb County which shall be designated as District 81 Judgeship Number 2.
- 82 (b) The additional judgeships created pursuant to 83 subsection (a) shall be filled at the next general election 84 after the effective date of this act.



- (c) The initial judges elected to the additional
  judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall serve for
  a six-year term holding office from the first Monday following
  the second Tuesday in January after the general election at
  which the judges are elected.
- 90 (d) The initial judges elected to the additional
  91 judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall have and
  92 shall exercise all the jurisdiction, power, rights, and
  93 authority and shall possess all of the qualifications, perform
  94 all of the duties, and shall be subject to all of the
  95 responsibilities and duties of the office to which other
  96 judges are subject.
- 97 (e) The annual compensation of the additional judges 98 elected pursuant to subsection (a) shall be in accordance with 99 Chapter 10A of Title 12, Code of Alabama 1975, including, but 100 not limited to, the provision that no judge first elected or 101 appointed to office after October 1, 2001, may be provided a 102 salary supplement or expense allowance.
  - (f) Funding for the additional judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall be made from the State General Fund appropriation to the Unified Judicial System commencing in Fiscal Year 2024.

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- Section 2. (a) (1) There is created an additional circuit judgeship for the Sixth Judicial Circuit which shall be designated as Judgeship Number 7.
- 110 (2) There is created an additional circuit judgeship
  111 for the Twenty-third Judicial Circuit which shall be
  112 designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 9.



- 113 (3) There is created an additional circuit judgeship
  114 for the Thirty-seventh Judicial Circuit which shall be
  115 designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 4.
- 116 (4) There is created an additional district judgeship
  117 for Mobile County which shall be designated as District
  118 Judgeship Number 6.
- 119 (5) There is created an additional district judgeship
  120 for Shelby County which shall be designated as District
  121 Judgeship Number 3.
- 122 (b) The additional judgeships created pursuant to
  123 subsection (a) shall be filled at the next general election
  124 after the effective date of this act.
- 125 (c) The initial judges elected to the additional

  126 judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall serve for

  127 a six-year term holding office from the first Monday following

  128 the second Tuesday in January after the general election at

  129 which the judges are elected.
- judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall have and shall exercise all the jurisdiction, power, rights, and authority and shall possess all of the qualifications, perform all of the duties, and shall be subject to all of the responsibilities and duties of the office to which other judges are subject.
- 137 (e) The annual compensation of the additional judges
  138 elected pursuant to subsection (a) shall be in accordance with
  139 Chapter 10A of Title 12, Code of Alabama 1975, including, but
  140 not limited to, the provision that no judge first elected or



- appointed to office after October 1, 2001, may be provided a salary supplement or expense allowance.
- (f) Funding for the additional judgeships created
  pursuant to subsection (a) shall be made from the State
  General Fund appropriation to the Unified Judicial System
  commencing in Fiscal Year 2025.
- Section 3. (a) (1) There is created an additional

  circuit judgeship for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit which

  shall be designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 5. The judge

  elected to Judgeship Number 5 may reside in any county within

  the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit.
- 152 (2) There is created an additional circuit judgeship
  153 for the Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit which shall be
  154 designated as Circuit Judgeship Number 7.
- 155 (3) There is created an additional district judgeship
  156 for Madison County which shall be designated as District
  157 Judgeship Number 5.
- 158 (b) The additional judgeships created pursuant to
  159 subsection (a) shall be filled at the next general election
  160 after the effective date of this act.
- 161 (c) The initial judges elected to the additional

  162 judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall serve for

  163 a six-year term holding office from the first Monday following

  164 the second Tuesday in January after the general election at

  165 which the judges are elected.
- 166 (d) The initial judges elected to the additional

  167 judgeships created pursuant to subsection (a) shall have and

  168 shall exercise all the jurisdiction, power, rights, and

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- authority and shall possess all of the qualifications, perform
  all of the duties, and shall be subject to all of the
  responsibilities and duties of the office to which other
  judges are subject.
- 173 (e) The annual compensation of the additional judges
  174 elected pursuant to subsection (a) shall be in accordance with
  175 Chapter 10A of Title 12, Code of Alabama 1975, including, but
  176 not limited to, the provision that no judge first elected or
  177 appointed to office after October 1, 2001, may be provided a
  178 salary supplement or expense allowance.
- (f) Funding for the additional judgeships created
  pursuant to subsection (a) shall be made from the State
  General Fund appropriation to the Unified Judicial System
  commencing in Fiscal Year 2026.
- Section 4. Section 1 shall become effective

  immediately, Section 2 shall become effective October 1, 2024,

  and Section 3 shall become effective October 1, 2025,

  following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its

  otherwise becoming law.