

SENATE FILE NO. SF0026

District judge positions-authorization and funding.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the judiciary; providing for an  
2 additional district court judge in the third judicial  
3 district; providing for an additional district court judge  
4 in the seventh judicial district; authorizing an additional  
5 district judge position in the sixth judicial district;  
6 specifying conditions for the authorization to be  
7 effective; providing appropriations; authorizing additional  
8 positions; and providing for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 5-3-102(a) is amended to read:

13

14 **5-3-102. Number of judges; distribution among**  
15 **districts; concurrent jurisdiction; judicial conference to**  
16 **adopt rules.**

1

2 (a) There shall be two (2) judges of the district  
3 court in the second, fourth, fifth and eighth judicial  
4 districts, three (3) judges of the district court in the  
5 ~~third, sixth, seventh~~ and ninth judicial districts and four  
6 (4) judges of the district court in the first, third and  
7 seventh judicial ~~district~~ districts. In the second judicial  
8 district, one (1) judge shall reside in Albany county and  
9 one (1) shall reside in Carbon county. In the third  
10 judicial district two (2) judges shall reside in Sweetwater  
11 county. In the fourth judicial district, one (1) judge  
12 shall reside in Sheridan county and one (1) shall reside in  
13 Johnson county. In the ninth judicial district one (1)  
14 judge shall reside in Fremont county, one (1) judge shall  
15 reside in Teton county and one (1) judge shall reside in  
16 Sublette county. All district judges in the state shall  
17 have concurrent jurisdiction throughout the state and for  
18 purposes of assignment, shall have concurrent jurisdiction  
19 throughout the state with all circuit court judges.

20

21 **Section 2.**

22

1           (a) There is appropriated from the general fund one  
2 million one hundred seventeen thousand six hundred dollars  
3 (\$1,117,600.00) to the third judicial district court for  
4 the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30,  
5 2024. This appropriation shall only be expended for  
6 salaries, benefits, office equipment, supplies and fees  
7 necessary to implement the office of the third judicial  
8 district court judge in the third judicial district  
9 authorized in section 1 of this act. This appropriation  
10 shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose  
11 and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
12 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
13 2024.

14

15           (b) There are authorized four (4) full-time  
16 equivalent positions, one (1) of which shall be the judge  
17 authorized in section 1 of this act, for the third judicial  
18 district court for personnel necessary to staff and support  
19 the additional district judge for the third judicial  
20 district authorized by this act for the biennium beginning  
21 July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024.

22

1           (c) Suitable facilities for the additional district  
2 judge for the third judicial district authorized in this  
3 act shall be provided in the third judicial district.  
4 Suitable facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to  
5 accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other  
6 necessary auxiliary facilities.

7

8           **Section 3.**

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10           (a) There is appropriated from the general fund one  
11 million one hundred seventeen thousand six hundred dollars  
12 (\$1,117,600.00) to the seventh judicial district court for  
13 the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30,  
14 2024. This appropriation shall only be expended for  
15 salaries, benefits, office equipment, supplies and fees  
16 necessary to implement the office of the seventh judicial  
17 district court judge in the seventh judicial district  
18 authorized in section 1 of this act. This appropriation  
19 shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose  
20 and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
21 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
22 2024.

23

1           (b) There are authorized four (4) full-time  
2 equivalent positions, one (1) of which shall be the judge  
3 authorized in section 1 of this act, for the seventh  
4 judicial district court for personnel necessary to staff  
5 and support the additional district judge for the seventh  
6 judicial district authorized by this act for the biennium  
7 beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024.

8  
9           (c) Suitable facilities for the additional district  
10 judge for the seventh judicial district authorized in this  
11 section shall be provided in the seventh judicial district.  
12 Suitable facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to  
13 accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other  
14 necessary auxiliary facilities.

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16           **Section 4.**

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18           (a) The sixth judicial district shall be authorized  
19 an additional district judge position beyond those  
20 authorized under W.S. 5-3-102(a) upon completion of all of  
21 the following:

22

1           (i) Certification by the chief justice of the  
2 Wyoming supreme court that adequate and suitable facilities  
3 in the sixth judicial district have been completed and are  
4 ready for occupancy for the additional district court  
5 judge. Adequate facilities shall include a suitable  
6 courtroom to accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices  
7 and other necessary auxiliary facilities. The courtroom,  
8 offices and other auxiliary facilities shall be in addition  
9 to those existing for district court purposes in the sixth  
10 judicial district as of July 1, 2022;

11

12           (ii) Delivery of the certification to the joint  
13 appropriations committee and the joint judiciary interim  
14 committee. Upon receipt of the certification, either  
15 committee may sponsor any legislation necessary to  
16 implement the additional district court judge position, to  
17 make any necessary appropriations and to authorize any  
18 necessary additional support positions; and

19

20           (iii) Enactment into law of legislation  
21 authorizing the filling of the additional district court  
22 judge position.

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1           **Section 5.** This act is effective July 1, 2022.

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3

(END)