12102056D

HOUSE BILL NO. 274

Offered January 11, 2012
Prefiled January 10, 2012

A BILL to amend and reenact § 17.1-507 of the Code of Virginia, relating to additional circuit court judge; Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Patron—Peace

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 17.1-507 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 17.1-507. Number of judges; residence requirement; compensation; powers; etc.

A. For the several judicial circuits there shall be judges, the number as hereinafter set forth, who shall during their service reside within their respective circuits and whose compensation and powers shall be the same as now and hereafter prescribed for circuit judges.

The number of judges of the circuits shall be as follows:

First - 5
Second - 10
Third - 5
Fourth - 9
Fifth - 3
Sixth - 2
Seventh - 5
Eighth - 4
Ninth - 4
Tenth - 3
Eleventh - 3
Twelfth - 5
Thirteenth - 8
Fourteenth - 5
Fifteenth - ~~8~~ *9*
Sixteenth - 5
Seventeenth - 4
Eighteenth - 3
Nineteenth - 15
Twentieth - 4
Twenty-first - 3
Twenty-second - 4
Twenty-third - 6
Twenty-fourth - 5
Twenty-fifth - 4
Twenty-sixth - 5
Twenty-seventh - 5
Twenty-eighth - 3
Twenty-ninth - 4
Thirtieth - 3
Thirty-first - 5

B. No additional circuit court judge shall be authorized or provided for any judicial circuit until the Judicial Council has made a study of the need for such additional circuit court judge and has reported its findings and recommendations to the Courts of Justice Committees of the House of Delegates and Senate. The boundary of any judicial circuit shall not be changed until a study has been made by the Judicial Council and a report of its findings and recommendations made to said Committees.

C. If the Judicial Council finds the need for an additional circuit court judge after a study is made pursuant to subsection B, the study shall be made available to the Compensation Board and the Courts of Justice Committees of the House of Delegates and Senate and Council shall publish notice of such finding in a publication of general circulation among attorneys licensed to practice in the Commonwealth. The Compensation Board shall make a study of the need to provide additional courtroom security and deputy court clerk staffing. This study shall be reported to the Courts of Justice

INTRODUCED

59 Committees of the House of Delegates and the Senate, and to the Department of Planning and Budget.