

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB57ER

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron: Howell

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Judges; increases number in 19th and 25th Judicial Districts

5. Summary: Increases from seven to eight the number of juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the 19th Judicial District (Fairfax, Fairfax County) and increases from three to four the number of general district court judges in the 25th Judicial District (Covington, Lexington, Staunton, Buena Vista, Waynesboro, Highland, Augusta, Rockbridge, Bath, Alleghany, Botetourt, and Craig). This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts. The provisions of the act will not become effective until July 1, 2018.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final (see Item #8)

8. Fiscal Implications: The bill increases the authorized number of judgeships for juvenile and domestic relations district courts in the 19th Judicial District and general district courts in the 25th Judicial District. The following table summarizes the changes:

	Current Authorized Judgeship Level	Authorized Judgeship Level Effective July 1, 2016
19 th Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court	3	4
25 th General District Court	7	8

Language in the 2016 General Assembly conference report (Item 53 #2c) does not authorize these judgeships to be filled. Currently, it requires \$274,791 to support each additional district court judgeship. In the future, additional appropriation may be required to support these judgeships.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None