

HOUSE BILL 500

D1

4r2766
CF 4r2195

By: **Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2014

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Judgeships – District Court**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the number of associate judges of the District Court in
4 certain districts; making this Act contingent on the taking effect of another Act;
5 and generally relating to judgeships in the District Court.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
8 Section 1–603
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

14 1–603.

15 (a) The court is composed of a Chief Judge and the number of associate
16 judges provided for in subsection (b) of this section. If the Chief Judge is relieved of the
17 Judge’s duties as Chief Judge but not removed from office as a judge of the District
18 Court, the Chief Judge shall serve for the remainder of the Judge’s term of office as a
19 District Court judge, as a resident judge of the Judge’s district and county of residence,
20 without reference to the maximum number of judges for that district prescribed in
21 subsection (b) of this section.

22 (b) In each of the districts provided for in § 1–602 of this subtitle, there shall
23 be the following number of associate judges of the District Court:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) District 1 — ~~[28]~~ **33**

2 (2) District 2 — 6, two to be appointed from Wicomico County and two
3 to be appointed from Worcester County

4 (3) District 3 — 6, two to be appointed from Cecil County

5 (4) District 4 — 6, two to be appointed from Calvert County and three
6 to be appointed from Charles County

7 (5) District 5 — ~~[16]~~ **19**

8 (6) District 6 — ~~[12]~~ **13**

9 (7) District 7 — ~~[9]~~ **10**

10 (8) District 8 — ~~[13]~~ **15**

11 (9) District 9 — 4

12 (10) District 10 — 7, two to be appointed from Carroll County and five
13 to be appointed from Howard County

14 (11) District 11 — 5, three to be appointed from Frederick County and
15 two to be appointed from Washington County

16 (12) District 12 — 3, two to be appointed from Allegany County

17 (c) In each district comprising more than one county, there shall be at least
18 one District Court judge resident and holding court in each county in the district.

19 (d) To assure that the services of the District Court are readily and
20 practicably available in all areas of District 8 and to assure that these services are
21 provided to all citizens of District 8 with a minimum of inconvenience and a maximum
22 of availability, there shall be a court facility physically located in each of the following
23 areas of that district, and at least one judge shall sit regularly in each location:

24 (1) The Towson area;

25 (2) The Catonsville area; and

26 (3) The Essex area.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 July 1, 2014, contingent on the taking effect of Chapter ____ (S.B. ____/H.B.
29 ____)(4lr2757) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2014, and if Chapter ____ (S.B.

1 ____/H.B. ____)(4lr2757) does not become effective, this Act shall be null and void
2 without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly.