

Chapter 474

(House Bill 493)

AN ACT concerning

Washington County – Judgeships – ~~Circuit Court and~~ District Court

FOR the purpose of ~~increasing the number of resident judges of the Circuit Court for St. Mary’s County;~~ increasing the number of associate judges of the District Court in a certain district appointed from Washington County; and generally relating to judgeships in ~~the circuit courts and~~ the District Court.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section ~~1–503(a)(18) and~~ 1–603(b)(11)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

~~1–503.~~

~~(a) In each county in the first seven judicial circuits there shall be the number of resident judges of the circuit court set forth below, including the judge or judges provided for by the Constitution:~~

~~(18) St. Mary’s~~ ~~[3]~~ **4**

1–603.

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

(11) District 11 — **[5] 6**, three to be appointed from Frederick County and **[two] THREE** to be appointed from Washington County

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.