

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 5766S.01I
Bill No.: SB 1393
Subject: Courts; Elections; Judges
Type: Original
Date: February 3, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal increases the number of circuit and associate circuit judges in the 11th judicial circuit, consisting of St. Charles County.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	(\$1,083,405)	(\$1,304,743)	(\$1,324,976)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$1,083,405)	(\$1,304,743)	(\$1,324,976)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	6 FTE	6 FTE	6 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	6 FTE	6 FTE	6 FTE

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§478.600 – Adds Increases the Number of Circuit and Associate Circuit Judges to the Eleventh Judicial Circuit (St. Charles County)

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)** state the proposed legislation increases the number of circuit and associate circuit judges in the eleventh judicial circuit, consisting of St. Charles County.

§478.600 adds two additional circuit judges to the Eleventh Judicial circuit to be elected in 2028. The FY27 salary for circuit judges is projected to be (\$183,303 x2) \$366,606 plus E&E of (\$2,978 x 2) \$5,956.

§478.600 addition of circuit judges includes a court reporter for each circuit judge. The FY26 starting salary for court reporters is (\$72,516 x 2) \$145,032 plus E &E of (\$2,978 x 2) \$5,956.

§478.600 adds an associate circuit judge to be elected in 2028. This shall not be included in the statutory formula for authorizing additional judges per county as provided in section 478.320. The FY26 salary of an associate circuit judge is projected to be \$168,639 plus E&E of \$2,978.

§478.600 addition of an associate circuit judge includes a senior court clerk for the associate circuit judge. The FY26 starting salary for a senior court clerk is \$46,057 plus E & E of \$2,978.

Therefore, OSCA states the proposed legislative addition of two circuit judges, two court reporters, an associate circuit judge and a senior court clerk will cost approximately \$744,202 annually and add 6 FTE.

Oversight notes the estimate of the costs of this proposal provided by OSCA does not include fringe benefits or inflationary increases for salaries and equipment and expenses for the three-year period of the fiscal note. Oversight is providing an estimate of the additional costs.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost – OSCA (\$478.600) p.3</u>			
Personal service	(\$603,147)	(\$735,587)	(\$747,597)
Fringe benefits	(\$463,251)	(\$563,887)	(\$572,004)
Equipment and expense	(\$17,007)	(\$5,269)	(\$5,375)
Total Costs - OSCA	(\$1,083,405)	(\$1,304,743)	(\$1,324,976)
FTE Change - OSCA	6 FTE	6 FTE	6 FTE
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	(\$1,083,405)	(\$1,304,743)	(\$1,324,976)
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	6 FTE	6 FTE	6 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, there are six circuit judges and nine associate circuit judges in the 11th Judicial District, located in St. Charles County. This act provides for an additional two circuit judges and one associate circuit judge. The new judges shall be elected in 2028 with terms beginning January 1, 2029. The new associate circuit judge position shall not be included in the automatic increases in the number of associate judge positions provided by the statutory formula based on population.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the State Courts Administrator
Office of the Secretary of State

Julie Morff
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Harris". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
February 3, 2026