

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1937

By: Representative Dalby

By: Senator S. Flowers

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM LOCAL DISTRICT
COURTS TO STATE DISTRICT COURTS; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM LOCAL
DISTRICT COURTS TO STATE DISTRICT COURTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1113(e), concerning the transition to state district courts for Cleburne and Stone counties in 2021, is repealed.

~~(e)(1) The Thirteenth District is composed of the counties of Stone and Cleburne.~~

~~(2) The Thirteenth District has five (5) departments as follows:~~

~~(A) One (1) located in Heber Springs;~~

~~(B) One (1) located in Greers Ferry;~~

~~(C) One (1) located in Concord;~~

~~(D) One (1) located in Quitman; and~~

~~(E) One (1) located in Mountain View.~~

~~(3) The Thirteenth District is served by one (1) state district court judge.~~

~~(4) The Thirteenth District judge is elected districtwide.~~

~~(5) The Thirteenth District court has districtwide jurisdiction.~~

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1113(h), concerning the transition to



state district courts for Monroe and Arkansas counties in 2021, is repealed.

~~(h)(1) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be composed of the counties of Monroe and Arkansas.~~

~~(2) The Sixteenth District shall have seven (7) departments as follows:~~

~~(A) One (1) located in Stuttgart;~~

~~(B) One (1) located in DeWitt;~~

~~(C) One (1) located in Gillett;~~

~~(D) One (1) located in St. Charles;~~

~~(E) One (1) located in Brinkley;~~

~~(F) One (1) located in Clarendon; and~~

~~(G) One (1) located in Holly Grove.~~

~~(3) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be served by one (1) state district court judge.~~

~~(4) The Sixteenth Judicial District judge shall be elected districtwide.~~

~~(5) The Sixteenth Judicial District court shall have districtwide jurisdiction.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 16, Chapter 17, Subchapter 11, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

16-17-1115. Reorganization of local district courts to state district courts as of January 1, 2025.

(a)(1) Beginning January 1, 2025, the following cities and counties, currently being served by a local district court under § 16-17-901 et seq. shall be reorganized as a state district court and served by state district court judges as assigned.

(2) The new state district court judgeship created by this section shall become effective January 1, 2025, and shall be placed on the ballot to be elected in the 2024 nonpartisan judicial election from the newly constructed state district court district.

(3) The cities and counties that were previously served by local district courts and will be served by state district courts shall comply with the cost-sharing requirements established in § 16-17-1106, effective January 1, 2025.

(b)(1) The Thirteenth District is composed of the counties of Stone

and Cleburne.

(2) The Thirteenth District has five (5) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Heber Springs;

(B) One (1) located in Greers Ferry;

(C) One (1) located in Concord;

(D) One (1) located in Quitman; and

(E) One (1) located in Mountain View.

(3) The Thirteenth District is served by one (1) state district court judge.

(4) The Thirteenth District judge is elected districtwide.

(5) The Thirteenth District court has districtwide jurisdiction.

(c)(1) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be composed of the counties of Monroe and Arkansas.

(2) The Sixteenth District shall have seven (7) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Stuttgart;

(B) One (1) located in De Witt;

(C) One (1) located in Gillett;

(D) One (1) located in St. Charles;

(E) One (1) located in Brinkley;

(F) One (1) located in Clarendon; and

(G) One (1) located in Holly Grove.

(3) The Sixteenth Judicial District shall be served by one (1) state district court judge.

(4) The Sixteenth Judicial District judge shall be elected districtwide.

(5) The Sixteenth Judicial District court shall have districtwide jurisdiction.

APPROVED: 4/10/19