

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: H3/27/19

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1880

By: Representatives Dalby, M. Gray

By: Senator J. Sturch

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISTRICT COURTS OF
INDEPENDENCE, FULTON, AND IZARD COUNTIES; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE DISTRICT COURTS OF
INDEPENDENCE, FULTON, AND IZARD COUNTIES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1113(f), concerning the transition to state district courts for Independence, Fulton, and Izard counties in 2021, is repealed.

~~(f)(1) The Fourteenth District is composed of the counties of Independence, Fulton, and Izard.~~

~~(2) The Fourteenth District has six (6) departments as follows:~~

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

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

~~(C) One (1) located in Calico Rock;~~

~~(D) One (1) located in Horseshoe Bend;~~

~~(E) One (1) located in Salem; and~~

~~(F) One (1) located in Mammoth Spring.~~

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

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

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



SECTION 2. 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 under this section that are 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 Fourteenth District is composed of the counties of Independence, Fulton, and Izard.

(2) The Fourteenth District has six (6) departments as follows:

(A) One (1) located in Batesville;

(B) One (1) located in Melbourne;

(C) One (1) located in Calico Rock;

(D) One (1) located in Horseshoe Bend;

(E) One (1) located in Salem; and

(F) One (1) located in Mammoth Spring.

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

(4) The Fourteenth District judge is elected districtwide.

(5) The Fourteenth District court has districtwide jurisdiction.

/s/Dalby

APPROVED: 4/11/19