

1 HB482
2 167179-1
3 By Representatives Boothe, Moore (B), Jones and Sells
4 RFD: Judiciary
5 First Read: 14-APR-15

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, there are three circuit
9 judgeships in the twelfth judicial circuit which is
10 comprised of Pike and Coffee Counties.

11 This bill would require the judge occupying
12 judgeship No. 1 to be a resident of Pike County,
13 and the judges occupying judgeships No. 2 and No. 3
14 to be residents of Coffee County. This bill would
15 also require any person qualifying as a candidate
16 for a circuit judgeship to have been a resident of
17 the county for the judgeship for at least one year
18 prior to qualifying as a candidate.

19
20 A BILL
21 TO BE ENTITLED
22 AN ACT
23

24 To amend Section 12-17-20 of the Code of Alabama
25 1975, relating to circuit judges; to provide for the residency
26 of circuit judges in the twelfth judicial circuit.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. Section 12-17-20 of the Code of Alabama
2 1975, is amended to read as follows:

3 "§12-17-20.

4 "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
5 each judicial circuit of the state shall have one resident
6 circuit judge.

7 "(b) In the following judicial circuits, there shall
8 be the number of resident circuit judges listed below:

9 "(1) There shall be two circuit judges in the first
10 judicial circuit. The judge occupying judgeship No. 1 shall be
11 the presiding judge.

12 "(2) There shall be three circuit judges in the
13 fourth judicial circuit.

14 "(3) There shall be three circuit judges in the
15 fifth judicial circuit.

16 "(4) There shall be six circuit judges in the sixth
17 judicial circuit.

18 "(5) There shall be five circuit judges in the
19 seventh judicial circuit.

20 "(6) There shall be three circuit judges in the
21 eighth judicial circuit.

22 "(7) There shall be three circuit judges in the
23 ninth judicial circuit.

24 "(8) There shall be 27 circuit judges in the tenth
25 judicial circuit. The judge occupying judgeship No. 23 shall
26 serve the Birmingham domestic relations division, and the
27 judges occupying judgeship Nos. 21, 22, and 24 shall serve the

1 Birmingham civil division. The judge occupying judgeship No.
2 25 shall serve the Bessemer cut-off division. The judges
3 occupying judgeship Nos. 26 and 27 shall serve in the Criminal
4 Division of Jefferson County, Birmingham Division.

5 "(9) There shall be three circuit judges in the
6 eleventh judicial circuit.

7 "(10) There shall be three circuit judges in the
8 twelfth judicial circuit. The judge occupying judgeship No. 1
9 shall be a resident of Pike County and the judges occupying
10 judgeship No. 2 and judgeship No. 3 shall be residents of
11 Coffee County. A person qualifying as a candidate for election
12 to a judgeship under this subdivision shall be a resident of
13 the county for judgeship the person seeks for a period of not
14 less than one year prior to the date the person qualifies as a
15 candidate for election to the office and thereafter during his
16 or her tenure in office.

17 "(11) There shall be eleven circuit judges in the
18 thirteenth judicial circuit.

19 "(12) There shall be three circuit judges in the
20 fourteenth judicial circuit.

21 "(13) There shall be nine circuit judges in the
22 fifteenth judicial circuit. At least two judges shall be
23 assigned to the criminal division of said circuit, and one or
24 more judges shall be assigned to the civil division, in the
25 discretion of the presiding judge. The judge occupying
26 judgeship No. 7 shall serve the family court division of said
27 circuit.

1 "(14) There shall be four circuit judges in the
2 sixteenth judicial circuit.

3 "(15) There shall be four circuit judges in the
4 eighteenth judicial circuit.

5 "(16) There shall be three circuit judges in the
6 nineteenth judicial circuit. The judge occupying judgeship No.
7 1 shall be a resident of Elmore County, the judge occupying
8 judgeship No. 2 shall be a resident of Autauga County, and the
9 judge occupying judgeship No. 3 shall be a resident of Chilton
10 County. A person qualifying as a candidate for election to a
11 judgeship under this subdivision shall be a resident of the
12 county for the judgeship the person seeks for a period of not
13 less than one year prior to the date the person qualifies as a
14 candidate for election to the office and thereafter during his
15 or her tenure in office.

16 "(17) There shall be five circuit judges in the
17 twentieth judicial circuit.

18 "(18) There shall be two circuit judges in the
19 twenty-first judicial circuit.

20 "(19) There shall be two circuit judges in the
21 twenty-second judicial circuit.

22 "(20) There shall be seven circuit judges in the
23 twenty-third judicial circuit.

24 "(21) There shall be two circuit judges in the
25 twenty-fifth judicial circuit.

26 "(22) There shall be two circuit judges in the
27 twenty-sixth judicial circuit.

1 "(23) There shall be three circuit judges in the
2 twenty-seventh judicial circuit.

3 "(24) There shall be five circuit judges in the
4 twenty-eighth judicial circuit.

5 "(25) There shall be three circuit judges in the
6 twenty-ninth judicial circuit.

7 "(26) There shall be two circuit judges in the
8 thirtieth judicial circuit.

9 "(27) There shall be two circuit judges in the
10 thirty-first judicial circuit.

11 "(28) There shall be two circuit judges in the
12 thirty-second judicial circuit.

13 "(29) There shall be two circuit judges in the
14 thirty-third judicial circuit.

15 "(30) There shall be three circuit judges in the
16 thirty-seventh judicial circuit. The judge occupying judgeship
17 Number 3 shall preside over the family court division.

18 "(31) There shall be two circuit judges in the
19 thirty-eighth judicial circuit.

20 "(32) There shall be two circuit judges in the
21 thirty-ninth judicial circuit."

22 Section 2. The amendatory provisions of subdivision
23 (10) of subsection (b) of Section 12-17-20 of the Code of
24 Alabama 1975, by this act shall become operative upon vacancy
25 in the office of judgeship No. 1, judgeship No. 2, and
26 judgeship No. 3. For purposes of this act, vacancy shall mean
27 a judge dies, retires, resigns, or is removed from office.

1 Section 3. This act shall become effective
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.