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SENATE BILL 300

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

William E. Sharer

AN ACT

**RELATING TO JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; CREATING THE FOURTEENTH
JUDICIAL DISTRICT; MODIFYING THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT;
PROVIDING FOR ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS,
PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATIONS, CONTRACTS AND OBLIGATIONS; MAKING
AN APPROPRIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. Section 34-6-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1941,
Chapter 75, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:**

**"34-6-1. JUDICIAL DISTRICTS. --The state shall be divided
into judicial districts as follows:**

**A. first judicial district, the counties of Santa
Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos;**

**B. second judicial district, the county of
Bernalillo;**

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1 C. third judicial district, the county of Dona
2 Ana;

3 D. fourth judicial district, the counties of
4 Guadalupe, San Miguel and Mora;

5 E. fifth judicial district, the counties of Eddy,
6 Chaves and Lea;

7 F. sixth judicial district, the counties of Grant,
8 Luna and Hidalgo;

9 G. seventh judicial district, the counties of
10 Socorro, Torrance, Sierra and Catron;

11 H. eighth judicial district, the counties of Taos,
12 Colfax and Union;

13 I. ninth judicial district, the counties of Curry
14 and Roosevelt;

15 J. tenth judicial district, the counties of Quay,
16 DeBaca and Harding;

17 K. eleventh judicial district, the ~~[counties of~~
18 ~~McKinley and San Juan]~~ the county of McKinley;

19 L. twelfth judicial district, the counties of
20 Otero and Lincoln; ~~[and]~~

21 M. thirteenth judicial district, the counties of
22 Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia; and

23 N. fourteenth judicial district, the county of San
24 Juan. "

25 Section 2. Section 34-6-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1968,

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1 Chapter 69, Section 17, as amended by Laws 1995, Chapter 178,
2 Section 3 and also by Laws 1995, Chapter 179, Section 1) is
3 amended to read:

4 "34-6-14. JUDGES--ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.--There
5 shall be [~~six~~] two district judges in the eleventh judicial
6 district. [~~The judges of divisions one, three, four and six~~
7 ~~shall reside and maintain their principal offices in San Juan~~
8 ~~county. The judges of divisions two and five shall reside and~~
9 ~~maintain their principal offices in McKinley county.-]~~

10 Section 3. A new Section 34-6-16.1 NMSA 1978 is enacted
11 to read:

12 "34-6-16.1. [NEW MATERIAL] JUDGES--FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL
13 DISTRICT.--There shall be four judges in the fourteenth
14 judicial district."

15 Section 4. TEMPORARY PROVISION--ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES,
16 DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATIONS, CONTRACTS AND
17 OBLIGATIONS.--On the effective date of the provisions of this
18 act:

19 A. judges serving in eleventh judicial district
20 divisions one, three, four and six, who reside in San Juan
21 county, are transferred to the fourteenth judicial district,
22 together with all appropriations, personnel, money, records,
23 furniture, equipment, office supplies and other things of
24 value and all contracts, liabilities or other obligations
25 attributable to those divisions;

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1 B. judges serving in eleventh judicial district
2 divisions two and five, who reside in McKinley county, shall
3 remain in the eleventh judicial district and shall retain all
4 appropriations, money, personnel, records, furniture,
5 equipment, office supplies and other things of value and all
6 contracts, liabilities or other obligations attributable to
7 those divisions;

8 C. the district attorney serving in eleventh
9 judicial district division one, composed of San Juan county,
10 is transferred to the fourteenth judicial district, together
11 with all appropriations, money, personnel, records, furniture,
12 equipment, office supplies and other things of value and all
13 contracts, liabilities or other obligations attributable to
14 that division; and

15 D. the district attorney serving in eleventh
16 judicial district division two, composed of McKinley county,
17 shall remain in the eleventh judicial district and shall
18 retain all appropriations, money, personnel, records,
19 furniture, equipment, office supplies and other things of
20 value and all contracts, liabilities or other obligations
21 attributable to that division.

22 Section 5. APPROPRIATION. --Ninety thousand dollars
23 (\$90,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
24 administrative office of the courts for expenditure in fiscal
25 year 2002 to pay for salaries, benefits, office supplies,

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1 materials and other costs associated with the creation of a
2 fourteenth judicial district. Any unexpended or unencumbered
3 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2002 shall revert
4 to the general fund.

5 Section 6. REPEAL. -- Sections 36-1-8.2 and 36-1-8.3 NMSA
6 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 25, Sections 1 and 2, as
7 amended) are repealed.

8 Section 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the
9 provisions of this act is July 1, 2001.