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\_\_\_\_\_ BILL

**55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022**

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

ENDORSED BY THE COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO COURTS; CREATING ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS IN THE FIFTH AND THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 34-6-8 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1968, Chapter 69, Section 11, as amended) is amended to read:

"34-6-8. JUDGES--FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.--There shall be [~~eleven~~] twelve district judges in the fifth judicial district."

SECTION 2. Section 34-6-16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1971, Chapter 52, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"34-6-16. JUDGES--THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.--There shall be [~~eight~~] nine district judges in the thirteenth judicial district."

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATIONS--FIFTH AND THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL

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DISTRICTS.--

A. Three hundred six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$306,800) is appropriated from the general fund to the fifth judicial district court for expenditure in fiscal year 2023 to pay the costs associated with a new judgeship, including salaries and benefits for the judge and staff, furniture, equipment and supplies. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2023 shall revert to the general fund.

B. Three hundred six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$306,800) is appropriated from the general fund to the thirteenth judicial district court for expenditure in fiscal year 2023 to pay the costs associated with a new judgeship, including salaries and benefits for the judge and staff, furniture, equipment and supplies. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2023 shall revert to the general fund.