

**REVISED JUDICATURE ACT OF 1961 (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 236 of 1961**

CHAPTER 5  
CIRCUIT COURTS: ORGANIZATION AND POWERS

**600.501 Judicial circuits.**

Sec. 501. The state is divided into judicial circuits as provided in this chapter.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

**600.502 First judicial circuit.**

Sec. 502. The first judicial circuit consists of the county of Hillsdale and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

**600.503 Second judicial circuit.**

Sec. 503. The second judicial circuit consists of the county of Berrien and has 4 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976.

**600.504 Third judicial circuit.**

Sec. 504. (1) The third judicial circuit consists of the county of Wayne and has the following number of judges:

(a) Until 12 noon, January 1, 2015, 60 judges.

(b) Beginning 12 noon, January 1, 2015, 56 judges. The 4 judgeships eliminated from this circuit at 12 noon, January 1, 2015 shall be the judgeships of 4 of the judges who are not eligible to run for reelection in 2014 due to constitutional limitation on March 27, 2014.

(2) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2023.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1963, Act 172, Eff. Sept. 6, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1996, Act 388, Eff. Oct. 1, 1997;—Am. 2001, Act 254, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2002, Act 715, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003;—Am. 2011, Act 300, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2011;—Am. 2014, Act 59, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2014;—Am.

2022, Act 8, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**"Effective date of changes.**

"Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**"Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

"Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**"Nominating petitions.**

"Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**"Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

"Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**"Terms of additional circuit judges.**

"Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**"Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

"Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years."

Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**"Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

"Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**"Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

"Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**"Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

"Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**"Terms of judges.**

"Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**"Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

"Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of

the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

## **600.505 Fourth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 505. The fourth judicial circuit consists of the county of Jackson and has 4 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district

judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

### **600.506 Fifth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 506. (1) except as provided in subsection (2), the fifth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Barry and Eaton and has 2 judges.

(2) If the county of Barry approves the reformation of the fifth judicial circuit pursuant to law and the county of Eaton approves the creation of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit pursuant to law, the fifth judicial circuit consists of the county of Barry and has 1 judge effective January 1, 1991.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides: “Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

In subsection (1), the phrase “except as provided” evidently should read “Except as provided.”

### **600.507 Sixth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 507. (1) The sixth judicial circuit consists of the county of Oakland and, except as otherwise provided in this section, has 19 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, this circuit has 18 judges during the period beginning 12 noon, January 1, 2011 and ending 12 noon, January 1, 2015. The judgeship temporarily eliminated from this circuit during the period of January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2015 shall be the judgeship of a judge who is not eligible to run for reelection due to constitutional limitation on January 5, 2010. In the 2014 election, the initial term of office of the judgeship being restored shall be 8 years.

(3) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2019.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1963, Act 179, Eff. Sept. 6, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 1994, Act 138, Imd. Eff. May 26, 1994;—Am. 2001, Act 252, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2006, Act 103, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 607, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2007;—Am. 2009, Act 228, Imd. Eff. Jan. 5, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 57, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2014.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another



judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides: “Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

Enacting section 1 of Act 252 of 2001 provides:

“Enacting section 1. If 2 new offices of judge are added to the sixth judicial circuit by election in 2002 pursuant to this amendatory act, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2002 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.”

Enacting section 1 of Act 607 of 2006 provides:

“Enacting section 1. If, pursuant to this amendatory act, a new office of judge is added to the sixth judicial circuit by election in 2008, the term of office of that judgeship for that election only shall be 8 years.”

## **600.508 Seventh judicial circuit; county; number of judges.**

Sec. 508. The seventh judicial circuit consists of the county of Genesee and has 9 judges. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2007.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 2001, Act 253, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2006, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006.

## **600.509 Eighth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 509. The eighth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Ionia and Montcalm and has 2 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the

candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.510 Ninth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 510. (1) The ninth judicial circuit consists of the county of Kalamazoo and has 5 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2025. If this judgeship is added to the ninth judicial circuit, the initial term of office of the judgeship is 8 years.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1964, Act 264, Imd. Eff. June 3, 1964;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 2022, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 29, 2023.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides:

“Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

**600.511 Tenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 511. The tenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Saginaw and has 5 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 2018, Act 6, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018;—Am. 2022, Act 8, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**600.512 Eleventh judicial circuit.**

Sec. 512. The eleventh judicial circuit consists of the counties of Alger, Luce, and Schoolcraft and has 1 judge. Beginning April 1, 2003, the eleventh judicial circuit court consists of the counties of Alger, Luce, Mackinac, and Schoolcraft and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

**600.513 Twelfth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 513. The twelfth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Baraga, Houghton and Keweenaw and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

### **600.514 Thirteenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 514. The thirteenth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Antrim, Grand Traverse and Leelanau and has 2 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1970, Act 49, Imd. Eff. Jan. 1, 1971;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972.

### **600.515 Fourteenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 515. (1) The fourteenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Muskegon and has 4 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2023. If this judgeship is added to the fourteenth judicial circuit, the initial term of office of the judgeship is 8 years.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2022, Act 8, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**"Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

"Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**"Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

"Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**"Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

"Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**"Terms of judges.**

"Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**"Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

"Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

"(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**"Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

"Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years."

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**"Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

"Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**"Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

"Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

"(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**"Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to**



**approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.516 Fifteenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 516. The fifteenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Branch and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970.

**600.517 Sixteenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 517. (1) The sixteenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Macomb and, except as otherwise provided in this section, has 13 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, this circuit has 12 judges during the period beginning 12 noon, January 1, 2011 and ending 12 noon, January 1, 2017. The 1 judgeship temporarily eliminated from this circuit during the period of January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2017 shall be the judgeship of a judge who is not eligible to run for reelection due to constitutional limitation on January 5, 2010.

(3) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2017.

(4) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2019. If this new judgeship is added to the sixteenth judicial circuit, the initial term of office of the judgeship shall be 8 years.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1962, Act 187, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1962;—Am. 1964, Act 198, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1964;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2001, Act 251, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2001, Act 257, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2002, Act 715, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 101, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 228, Imd. Eff. Jan. 5, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 56, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2014.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**”New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

## **600.518 Seventeenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 518. The seventeenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Kent and has 10 judges. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2017.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1964, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June 3, 1964;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1974, Act 77, Imd. Eff. Apr. 9, 1974;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 2001, Act 256, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2006, Act 99, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006;—Am. 2014, Act 58, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2014.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides: “Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

Enacting section 1 of Act 256 of 2001 provides:

“Enacting section 1. (1) If 2 new offices of judge are added to the seventeenth judicial circuit by election in 2002, pursuant to this amendatory act, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2002 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

(2) If 1 new office of judge is added to the twentieth judicial circuit by election in 2004, pursuant to this amendatory act, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2004 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years.”

**600.519 Eighteenth judicial circuit; Bay county.**

Sec. 519. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the eighteenth judicial circuit consists of the county of Bay and has 3 judges.

(2) Beginning on the earlier of the following dates, the eighteenth judicial circuit has 2 judges:

(a) The date on which a vacancy occurs in the office of circuit judge in the eighteenth judicial circuit.

(b) The beginning date of the term for which an incumbent circuit judge in the eighteenth judicial circuit no longer seeks election or reelection to that office.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2012, Act 38, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2012.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of

the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.520 Nineteenth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 520. The nineteenth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Manistee and Benzie and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of



the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.521 Twentieth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 521. (1) The twentieth judicial circuit consists of the county of Ottawa and has 4 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2023. If this judgeship is added to the twentieth judicial circuit, the initial term of office of the judgeship is 8 years.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2001, Act 256, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2022, Act 8, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides: “If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

Enacting section 1 of Act 256 of 2001 provides:

“Enacting section 1. (1) If 2 new offices of judge are added to the seventeenth judicial circuit by election in 2002, pursuant to this amendatory act, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2002 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

(2) If 1 new office of judge is added to the twentieth judicial circuit by election in 2004, pursuant to this amendatory act, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2004 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years.”

**600.522 Twenty-first judicial circuit.**

Sec. 522. The twenty-first judicial circuit consists of the county of Isabella and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2005. If a new office of judge is added to this circuit by election in 2004, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the November 2004 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 1981, Act 182, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 1981;—Am. 2001, Act 256, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002;—Am. 2001, Act 257, Eff. Mar. 22, 2002.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 182 of 1981 provides: “(1) The fifty-fifth judicial circuit is not created and the circuit judgeship proposed for that circuit is not authorized unless all of the following occur:

“(a) The counties of Clare and Gladwin, by resolutions adopted by each of their county boards of commissioners, approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit and the judgeship proposed for that circuit.

“(b) The clerk of each county in subdivision (a) files a copy of the county's respective resolution with the secretary of state not later than December 22, 1981.

“(c) The county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit as provided in subsection (2).

“(2) The twenty-first judicial circuit is not reformed unless all of the following occur:

“(a) The county of Isabella, by resolution adopted by its county board of commissioners, approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit.

“(b) The clerk of the county of Isabella files a copy of the resolution with the secretary of state not later than December 22, 1981.

“(c) The counties of Clare and Gladwin approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit as provided in subsection (1).

“(3) If the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit and the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit are approved pursuant to subsections (1) and (2), the secretary of state shall immediately notify the state court administrator.

“(4) By proposing the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit and a circuit judgeship for that circuit and the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit, the legislature is not creating the fifty-fifth judicial circuit or any judgeship in that circuit, or reforming the twenty-first judicial circuit. If the counties of Clare and Gladwin, acting through their respective boards of commissioners, approve the creation of the circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed by law for that circuit, or if the county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit each approval constitutes an exercise of the affected county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from the creation of the circuit and judgeship, or from the reformation of the circuit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay to each county a portion of the circuit judge's or judges' salary as provided by law, or to appropriate and disburse funds to each county for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.

“(5) If the county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit and the counties of Clare and Gladwin approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit, then the incumbent circuit judge in the twenty-first judicial circuit who is a qualified elector in Clare or Gladwin county and who has been appointed to that office by the governor after January 1, 1981, becomes the circuit judge in the fifty-fifth judicial circuit on January 1, 1982, and serves as a circuit judge until January 1 next succeeding the first general election held after the vacancy to which he or she was appointed occurs, at which election a successor shall be elected for the remainder of the unexpired term which the predecessor incumbent serving on December 30, 1980, would have served had that incumbent remained

in office in the twenty-first judicial circuit until his or her term would normally have expired.”

#### **600.523 Twenty-second judicial circuit.**

Sec. 523. The twenty-second judicial circuit consists of the county of Washtenaw and has 5 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1963, Act 32, Imd. Eff. Apr. 26, 1963;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976.

#### **600.524 Twenty-third judicial circuit.**

Sec. 524. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the twenty-third judicial circuit consists of the counties of Alcona, Arenac, Iosco, and Oscoda and has 2 judges. For purposes of the November 2008 general election only, the term of the candidate for circuit judge in this circuit who receives the highest number of votes is 8 years, and the term of the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes is 6 years.

(2) Beginning on the earlier of the following dates, the twenty-third judicial circuit has 1 judge:

(a) The date on which a vacancy occurs in the office of circuit judge in the twenty-third judicial circuit, unless the vacancy occurs after the vacating judge has been defeated in a primary or general election.

(b) The beginning date of the term for which an incumbent circuit judge in the twenty-third judicial circuit no longer seeks election or reelection to that office.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003;—Am. 2012, Act 35, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2012;—Am. 2014, Act 58, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2014.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.525 Twenty-fourth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 525. The twenty-fourth judicial circuit consists of the county of Sanilac and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**



“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.526 Twenty-fifth judicial circuit; Marquette.**

Sec. 526. The twenty-fifth judicial circuit consists of the county of Marquette and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2023.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 2012, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Feb. 22, 2012;—Am. 2021, Act 74, Eff. Mar. 30, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

## **600.527 Twenty-sixth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 527. The twenty-sixth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Presque Isle and has 2 judges. Beginning April 1, 2003, the twenty-sixth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Alpena and Montmorency. This circuit shall have 1 judge beginning on the earlier of the following dates:

- (a) The date on which a vacancy occurs in the office of circuit judge for this judicial circuit.
- (b) Twelve noon, January 1, 2005.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.528 Twenty-seventh judicial circuit.**

Sec. 528. (1) Until June 30, 2022, the twenty-seventh judicial circuit consists of the counties of Newaygo and Oceana and has 1 judge. Beginning July 1, 2022, the twenty-seventh judicial circuit consists of the counties of Newaygo and Lake and has 1 judge.

(2) The incumbent judge of the twenty-seventh judicial circuit who resides in Newaygo County shall

become the judge of the reformed twenty-seventh judicial circuit on July 1, 2022, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the twenty-seventh judicial circuit expires.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 2012, Act 18, Imd. Eff. Feb. 22, 2012;—Am. 2022, Act 7, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides:

“Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

## **600.529 Twenty-eighth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 529. The twenty-eighth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Missaukee and Wexford and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall

assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.530 Twenty-ninth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 530. The twenty-ninth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Clinton and Gratiot and has 2 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2013, Act 33, Imd. Eff. May 20, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 6, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall



assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.531 Thirtieth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 531. The thirtieth judicial circuit consists of the county of Ingham and has 7 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall

assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

### **600.532 Thirty-first judicial circuit.**

Sec. 532. The thirty-first judicial circuit consists of the county of St. Clair and has 3 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

### **600.533 Thirty-second judicial circuit.**

Sec. 533. The thirty-second judicial circuit consists of the counties of Gogebic and Ontonagon and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

### **600.534 Thirty-third judicial circuit.**

Sec. 534. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the thirty-third judicial circuit consists of the counties of Charlevoix and Emmet and has 1 judge.

(2) If the county of Charlevoix approves the reformation of the thirty-third judicial circuit pursuant to law and the county of Emmet approves the creation of the fifty-seventh judicial circuit pursuant to law, the thirty-third judicial circuit consists of the county of Charlevoix and has 1 judge effective January 1, 1995.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1994, Act 138, Imd. Eff. May 26, 1994.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8

years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

### **600.535 Thirty-fourth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 535. The thirty-fourth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Arenac, Ogemaw, and Roscommon and has 2 judges. Beginning April 1, 2003, the thirty-fourth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Ogemaw and Roscommon and has 1 judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970;—Am. 1970, Act 49, Imd. Eff. Jan. 1, 1971;—Am. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

### **600.536 Thirty-fifth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 536. The thirty-fifth judicial circuit consists of the county of Shiawassee and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1991.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the



composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

### **600.537 Thirty-sixth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 537. The thirty-sixth judicial circuit consists of the county of Van Buren and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1989.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides:

“Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

### **600.538 Thirty-seventh judicial circuit.**

Sec. 538. The thirty-seventh judicial circuit consists of the county of Calhoun and has 3 judges. Subject to section 550, the thirty-seventh judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1993.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

### **600.539 Thirty-eighth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 539. The thirty-eighth judicial circuit consists of the county of Monroe and has 3 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1966, Act 22, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1966;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of

the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

### **600.540 Thirty-ninth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 540. The thirty-ninth judicial circuit consists of the county of Lenawee and has 2 judges.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976.

### **600.541 Fortieth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 541. The fortieth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Lapeer and Tuscola and has 3 judges. If the county of Lapeer approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit pursuant to law, and the county of Tuscola approves the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit pursuant to law, the fortieth judicial circuit consists of the county of Lapeer and has 2 judges effective July 1, 1981.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1980, Act 190, Imd. Eff. July 8, 1980;—Am. 1980, Act 438, Eff. May 1, 1981.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third

highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Sections 2 and 3 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that

option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978."

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**"Effective date of Chapter 91 and certain sections.**

"Section 3. Chapter 91 and sections 224, 541, 549f, 594, 595, 8121a, 8275, 9941, 9943, 9945, and 9946 shall take effect May 1, 1981."

**600.542 Forty-first judicial circuit.**

Sec. 542. The forty-first judicial circuit consists of the counties of Dickinson, Iron, and Menominee and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1985.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1984, Act 95, Imd. Eff. Apr. 23, 1984.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 95 of 1984 provides: "Section 2. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the forty-first judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years."

**600.543 Forty-second judicial circuit.**

Sec. 543. The forty-second judicial circuit consists of the county of Midland and has 2 judges.

**History:** Add. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976.

**600.544 Forty-third judicial circuit.**

Sec. 544. The forty-third judicial circuit consists of the county of Cass and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968.

**600.545 Forty-fourth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 545. The forty-fourth judicial circuit consists of the county of Livingston and has 2 judges. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge beginning January 1, 2019. If this judgeship is added to the forty-fourth judicial circuit, the initial term of office of the judgeship is 8 years.

**History:** Add. 1968, Act 127, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1968;—Am. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 2018, Act 6, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**"Effective date of changes.**

"Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**"Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

"Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**"Nominating petitions.**

"Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**"Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

"Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**"Terms of additional circuit judges.**

"Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**"Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

"Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional



district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

#### **600.546 Forty-fifth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 546. The forty-fifth judicial circuit consists of the county of St. Joseph and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1970, Act 30, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1970.

#### **600.547 Forty-sixth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 547. The forty-sixth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Kalkaska, Crawford, and Otsego and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1985.

**History:** Add. 1972, Act 169, Imd. Eff. June 15, 1972;—Am. 1984, Act 95, Imd. Eff. Apr. 23, 1984.

**Compiler's note:** Section 3 of Act 95 of 1984 provides: “Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the forty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.”

#### **600.548 Forty-seventh judicial circuit.**

Sec. 548. The forty-seventh judicial circuit consists of the county of Delta and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

#### **600.549 Forty-eighth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549. (1) The forty-eighth judicial circuit consists of the county of Allegan and has 2 judges.

(2) Subject to section 550, the forty-eighth judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2025.

**History:** Add. 1974, Act 145, Imd. Eff. June 7, 1974;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2022, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 29, 2023.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 145 of 1974 provide:

**“Effective date of changes.**

“Section 2. The changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1975.

**“Election of additional circuit and district judges; assumption of office; appearance of new judgeships on ballot; nominating petitions; incumbent judges.**

“Section 3. The additional circuit and district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected in 1974 and shall assume office on January 1, 1975. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective judicial circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that

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circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing his nominating petitions, whether he is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act must bear signatures affixed thereto after the effective date of this act. Any incumbent circuit or district judge whose term is expiring January 1, 1975, and who is seeking election to a judicial office of the same court in 1974 is entitled to the designation of his office even if he is a candidate for a new office of the same court authorized by this amendatory act.

**“Nominating petitions.**

“Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nominating petitions for the offices added by this 1974 amendatory act shall contain not less than 1/2 of 1% nor more than 2% of the total number of votes cast in that judicial circuit for secretary of state at the last preceding general November election in which a secretary of state was elected.

**“Nomination, election, and terms of candidates for new circuit judgeships.**

“Section 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972, the 10 candidates for the new circuit judgeships in the third judicial circuit created by Act No. 169 of the Public Acts of 1972 who receive the highest votes in the August primary election shall be deemed nominated for the 5 new judgeships created thereby. Of the additional judgeships so created for the third judicial circuit the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1974 general election shall be elected for a term of 10 years, the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Terms of additional circuit judges.**

“Section 6. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years except that the additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the forty-fourth judicial circuit shall be elected for a term of 8 years.

**“Terms of additional district judges in certain districts.**

“Section 7. In districts in which the district court is already functioning on the effective date of this amendatory act, the additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act shall be elected for a term of 6 years, except that the additional district judges authorized in the first election division of the ninth district and in the fifteenth district shall be elected for a term of 8 years and that the additional district judge authorized in the newly divided forty-first-a district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

## **600.549a Forty-ninth judicial circuit; counties; number of judges.**

Sec. 549a. The forty-ninth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Mecosta and Osceola and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2007.

**History:** Add. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 2006, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 1 of Act 100 of 2006 provides:

"Enacting section 1. If, pursuant to this amendatory act, a new office of judge is added to the forty-ninth judicial circuit by election in 2006, the term of office of that judgeship for that election only shall be 8 years."

## **600.549b Fiftieth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549b. The fiftieth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Chippewa and Mackinac and has 1 judge. Beginning April 1, 2003, the fiftieth judicial circuit consists of the county of Chippewa and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1976, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 21, 1976;—Am. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be

elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.549c Fifty-first judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549c. (1) Until June 30, 2022, the fifty-first judicial circuit consists of the counties of Lake and Mason and has 1 judge. Beginning July 1, 2022, the fifty-first judicial circuit consists of the counties of Mason and Oceana and has 1 judge.

(2) The incumbent judge of the fifty-first judicial circuit who resides in Mason County shall become the judge of the reformed fifty-first judicial circuit on July 1, 2022, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifty-first judicial circuit expires.

**History:** Add. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978;—Am. 2022, Act 7, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any

term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judiciary act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

## **600.549d Fifty-second judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549d. The fifty-second judicial circuit consists of the county of Huron and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1978, Act 164, Imd. Eff. May 25, 1978.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 7 of Act 164 of 1978 provide:

**“Sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 effective January 1, 1979; effective date of changes in composition of judicial circuits or district court districts.**

“Section 2. Sections 6404, 6410, and 6413 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.6404, 600.6410, and 600.6413 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, shall not take effect until January 1, 1979. Except as otherwise provided in sections 524, 527, and 534 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by this amendatory act, being sections 600.524, 600.527, and 600.534 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, the changes in the composition of judicial circuits or district court districts as provided in this amendatory act shall become effective for judicial purposes on January 1, 1979.

**“Election to fill new circuit and district judgeships; term.**

“Section 3. Except as otherwise provided in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, the new circuit and district judgeships created by this amendatory act shall be filled by election pursuant to Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for a term of 6 years commencing January 1, 1979.

**“Ballot; nominating petition; affidavit of candidacy.**

“Section 4. The new judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuit and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in the applicable year. Petitions for a new judgeship created by this act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the effective date of this act. An elected incumbent circuit judge in a circuit in which the number of circuit judges has been increased by this amendatory act may become a candidate in the primary election for that office for any term for which a circuit judge is to be elected at the 1978 general election in that circuit by filing an affidavit of candidacy with the secretary of state not later than 4 days after the effective date of this amendatory act.

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**“Terms of judges.**

“Section 5. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the third judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 3 additional judgeships created for the sixth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidates receiving the second and third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. Of the 2 additional judgeships created for the thirtieth judicial circuit, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1978 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years. The additional circuit judges authorized by this amendatory act in the eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-ninth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 8 years. The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the eighteenth, thirty-first, thirty-eighth, and fortieth judicial circuits shall be elected for a term of 10 years. The additional district judges authorized in the thirty-fifth and forty-first-a districts and in the first division of the fifty-sixth district shall be elected for a term of 4 years.

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and term of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judges authorized by this amendatory act in the fifty-fourth-b district and the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 4 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Residence of certain circuit judges; effect.**

“Section 7. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of the county of Cheboygan on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the thirty-third judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the twenty-sixth judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 8 years. If the circuit judge elected in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit in 1978 is a resident of 1 of the counties of Alpena, Montmorency, or Presque Isle on June 6, 1978, that person shall continue during the remainder of his or her term after January 1, 1981 as a judge of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit and the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

Section 1 of Act 128 of 1980 provides:

**“Enacting sections amended; revised judicature act of 1961.**

“Section 1. Enacting sections 6 and 7 of Act No. 164 of the Public Acts of 1978 are amended to read as follows:

**“Election of additional judges; assumption and terms of office.**

“Section 6. (1) The additional district judge authorized by this amendatory act in the first division of the fifty-second district shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

“(2) The additional circuit judge authorized by this amendatory act in the fourteenth judicial circuit shall be elected in 1980 and shall assume office on January 1, 1981, for a term of 8 years.

**“Twenty-sixth judicial circuit; vacancy; residence of candidates; eligibility of electors; failure of Cheboygan county to approve creation of fifty-third judicial circuit and circuit judgeship.**

“Section 7. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit between the effective date of this section, as amended, and June 3, 1980, candidates to fill the unexpired portion of the term shall be residents of the twenty-sixth judicial circuit as that circuit will be constituted on January 1, 1981, pursuant to this act. Electors of the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle shall be eligible to vote in the primary and general elections of 1980 to fill that vacancy and electors of those counties are qualified to sign and circulate nominating petitions for candidates to fill the vacancy.

“(2) If the county of Cheboygan does not approve the creation of the fifty-third judicial circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed for it pursuant to House Bill No. 5553 of the 1980 regular session of the legislature, the second circuit judgeship authorized by law for the thirty-third judicial circuit shall be filled by election in 1980 for a term of 6 years.”

**600.549e Fifty-third judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549e. The fifty-third judicial circuit consists of the county of Cheboygan and has 1 judge. Beginning April 1, 2003, the fifty-third judicial circuit consists of the counties of Cheboygan and Presque Isle and has 1 judge.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to

this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.

#### **600.549f Fifty-fourth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549f. If the county of Lapeer approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit pursuant to law, and the county of Tuscola approves the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit pursuant to law, the fifty-fourth judicial circuit consists of the county of Tuscola and has 1 judge effective July 1, 1981.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1980, Act 190, Imd. Eff. July 8, 1980;—Am. 1980, Act 438, Eff. May 1, 1981.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Sections 2, 3 and 6 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.”

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**“Effective date of Chapter 91 and certain sections.**

“Section 3. Chapter 91 and sections 224, 541, 549f, 594, 595, 8121a, 8275, 9941, 9943, 9945, and 9946 shall take effect May 1, 1981.”

**“Creation of fifty-fourth judicial circuit and reformation of fortieth judicial circuit; conditions; legislative intent; judgeship.**

“Section 6. (1) The fifty-fourth judicial circuit shall not be created nor any circuit judgeship proposed for that circuit be authorized or filled by election unless all of the following occur:

“(a) The county of Lapeer approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit pursuant to subsection (2).

“(b) The county of Tuscola, by resolution adopted by its county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit and the judgeship proposed for that circuit.

“(c) The clerk of the county of Tuscola files a copy of the resolution adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. on June 1, 1981.

“(2) The fortieth judicial circuit shall not be reformed unless the county of Lapeer, by resolution adopted by its county board of commissioners, approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit and unless the clerk of the county of Lapeer files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. on June 1, 1981.

“(3) If the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit, the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit, and the creation of the proposed circuit judgeship for the fifty-fourth judicial circuit are approved pursuant to subsections (1) and (2), the state court administrator shall immediately notify the elections division of the department of state of the composition of the circuits.

“(4) By proposing the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit and a circuit judgeship for that circuit and the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit, the legislature is not creating the fifty-fourth judicial circuit or any judgeship in that circuit, or reforming the fortieth judicial circuit. If the county of Tuscola, acting through its board of commissioners, approves the creation of the circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed by law for that circuit, or if the county of Lapeer approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit each approval constitutes an exercise of the affected county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of the option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from the creation of the circuit and judgeship, or from the reformation of the circuit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay to each county a portion of the circuit judge's or judges' salary as provided by law, or to appropriate and disburse funds to each county for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.

“(5) If the county of Lapeer approves the reformation of the fortieth judicial circuit and the county of Tuscola approves the creation of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit and the judgeship for that circuit pursuant to this section, the circuit judge in the fortieth judicial circuit whose term expires on January 1, 1989, shall become a judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit and shall serve the balance of his or her term after July 1, 1981, as a judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit.”

#### **600.549g Fifty-fifth judicial circuit; counties; number of judges.**

Sec. 549g. The fifty-fifth judicial circuit consists of the counties of Clare and Gladwin and has 1 judge. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 2007.

**History:** Add. 1981, Act 182, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 1981;—Am. 2006, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Apr. 6, 2006.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 182 of 1981 provides:

“(1) The fifty-fifth judicial circuit is not created and the circuit judgeship proposed for that circuit is not authorized unless all of the following occur:

“(a) The counties of Clare and Gladwin, by resolutions adopted by each of their county boards of commissioners, approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit and the judgeship proposed for that circuit.

“(b) The clerk of each county in subdivision (a) files a copy of the county's respective resolution with the secretary of state not later than December 22, 1981.

“(c) The county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit as provided in subsection (2).

“(2) The twenty-first judicial circuit is not reformed unless all of the following occur:

“(a) The county of Isabella, by resolution adopted by its county board of commissioners, approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit.

“(b) The clerk of the county of Isabella files a copy of the resolution with the secretary of state not later than December 22, 1981.

“(c) The counties of Clare and Gladwin approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit as provided in subsection (1).

“(3) If the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit and the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit are approved pursuant to subsections (1) and (2), the secretary of state shall immediately notify the state court administrator.

“(4) By proposing the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit and a circuit judgeship for that circuit and the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit, the legislature is not creating the fifty-fifth judicial circuit or any judgeship in that circuit, or reforming the twenty-first judicial circuit. If the counties of Clare and Gladwin, acting through their respective boards of commissioners, approve the creation of the circuit and the circuit judgeship proposed by law for that circuit, or if the county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit each approval constitutes an exercise of the affected county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from the creation of the circuit and judgeship, or from the reformation of the circuit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay to each county a portion of the circuit judge's or judges' salary as provided by law, or to appropriate and disburse funds to each county for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.

“(5) If the county of Isabella approves the reformation of the twenty-first judicial circuit and the counties of Clare and Gladwin approve the creation of the fifty-fifth judicial circuit, then the incumbent circuit judge in the twenty-first judicial circuit who is a qualified elector in Clare or Gladwin county and who has been appointed to that office by the governor after January 1, 1981, becomes the circuit judge in the fifty-fifth judicial circuit on January 1, 1982, and serves as a circuit judge until January 1 next succeeding the first general election held after the vacancy to which he or she was appointed occurs, at which election a successor shall be elected for the remainder of the unexpired term which the predecessor incumbent serving on December 30, 1980, would have served had that incumbent remained in office in the twenty-first judicial circuit until his or her term would normally have expired.”

#### **600.549h Fifty-sixth judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549h. If the county of Barry approves the reformation of the fifth judicial circuit pursuant to law, and the county of Eaton approves the creation of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit pursuant to law, the fifty-sixth judicial circuit consists of the county of Eaton and has 1 judge effective January 1, 1991. Subject to section 550, this judicial circuit may have 1 additional judge effective January 1, 1991.

**History:** Add. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

#### **600.549i Fifty-seventh judicial circuit.**

Sec. 549i. If the county of Charlevoix approves the reformation of the thirty-third judicial circuit pursuant to law, and the county of Emmet approves the creation of the fifty-seventh judicial circuit pursuant to law, the fifty-seventh judicial circuit consists of the county of Emmet and has 1 judge effective January 1, 1995.

**History:** Add. 1994, Act 138, Imd. Eff. May 26, 1994.

**600.550 Additional circuit judgeship; creation; approval by county; resolution; filing; valid approval of judgeship; notice to elections division; effect of approval; state's obligation; election; first term; temporary reduction in number of circuit judgeships; notice.**

Sec. 550. (1) An additional circuit judgeship permitted by this chapter shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of that judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the sixteenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship. The state court administrator shall immediately notify the elections division of the department of state with respect to each new circuit judgeship authorized pursuant to this subsection. If a circuit judgeship is permitted by law to be authorized without a resolution being adopted by the county board of commissioners, the state court administrator shall immediately notify the elections division of the department of state with respect to each new circuit judgeship authorized.

(2) A resolution required under subsection (1) that is filed before the effective date of the amendatory act that authorized that judgeship is a valid approval of the judgeship for purposes of this section only if the filing occurs within the 2-year state legislative session during which the amendatory act was enacted. A resolution required under subsection (1) that is filed after the effective date of the amendatory act that added that judgeship is a valid approval of the judgeship for purposes of this section only if the filing occurs not later than 4 p.m. of the sixteenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election immediately preceding the effective date of the additional judgeship.

(3) By permitting an additional judgeship, or by restoring a judgeship after a temporary reduction in judgeships as described in subsection (5), the legislature is not creating that judgeship. If a county, acting through its board of commissioners, approves the creation of an additional circuit judgeship, that approval constitutes an exercise of the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by 1979 PA 101, MCL 21.231 to 21.244, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from the creation of the judgeship. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of the additional judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other judges of the same circuit, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the county for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.

(4) Each additional circuit judgeship created pursuant to subsection (1) shall be filled by election pursuant to the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992. The first term of each additional circuit judgeship shall be 6 years, unless the law permitting the additional judgeship provides for a term of a different length.

(5) If, by law, the number of judgeships in a judicial circuit is temporarily reduced for a period of not more than 6 years and then restored to the number of judgeships that existed before the temporary reduction, the restored judgeship or judgeships are not considered additional circuit judgeships for purposes of this section, and a resolution of approval under subsection (1) is not required.

(6) A temporary reduction in the number of circuit judgeships in a judicial circuit shall not take effect unless both of the following occur:

(a) Each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, supports the temporary reduction in the number of judgeships.

(b) The clerk of each county adopting the resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the sixteenth Tuesday preceding the date on which the August primary would have been held for the judgeship that is being eliminated. A resolution required under subdivision (a) that is filed before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection is valid if the filing occurs within the 2-year state legislative session during which the amendatory act was enacted.

(7) The state court administrator shall immediately notify the elections division of the department of state with respect to either of the following:

(a) A temporary reduction in the number of judgeships in a judicial circuit.

(b) The restoration of the number of judgeships in a judicial circuit, after a temporary reduction in that number.



**History:** Add. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1984, Act 95, Imd. Eff. Apr. 23, 1984;—Am. 1988, Act 134, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1988;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2009, Act 228, Imd. Eff. Jan. 5, 2010.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Section 2 of Act 134 of 1988 provides: “Any additional circuit judgeship to be added by election in 1988 shall not be authorized to be filled by election unless each county in the circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the judgeship and unless the clerk of each county adopting such a resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the tenth Tuesday preceding the August primary for the election to fill the additional circuit judgeship.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

## **600.550a New judicial circuit and 1 or more circuit judgeships; creation; approval by county; resolution; filing; notice to elections division; effect of approval; state's obligation; election; first term; approval of county board of commissioners not required.**

Sec. 550a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, if a new judicial circuit is proposed by law, that new circuit is not created and any circuit judgeship proposed for the circuit is not authorized or filled by election unless each county in the proposed circuit, by resolution adopted by the county board of commissioners, approves the creation of the new circuit and each judgeship proposed for the circuit and unless the clerk of each county adopting that resolution files a copy of the resolution with the state court administrator not later than 4 p.m. of the sixteenth Tuesday preceding the August primary immediately following the effective date of the amendatory act permitting the creation of the new circuit. The state court administrator shall immediately notify the elections division of the department of state with respect to each new judicial circuit and circuit judgeship authorized under this subsection.

(2) By proposing a new judicial circuit and 1 or more circuit judgeships for the circuit, the legislature is not creating that circuit or any judgeship in the circuit. If a county, acting through its board of commissioners, approves the creation of a new circuit and 1 or more circuit judgeships proposed by law for that circuit, that approval constitutes an exercise of the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by 1979 PA 101, MCL 21.231 to 21.244, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses and capital improvements that may result from the creation of the new circuit and each judgeship. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay a portion of the circuit judge's or judges' salary as provided by law, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the county for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law that takes effect on or after December 23, 1978.

(3) Each circuit judgeship created under subsection (1) must be filled by election under the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992. The first term of each circuit judgeship is 6 years, unless the law permitting the creation of the new circuit and 1 or more judgeships provides for a term of a different length.

(4) The reformation of the eleventh, twenty-third, twenty-sixth, thirty-fourth, fiftieth, and fifty-third judicial circuits under 2002 PA 92 does not require a resolution of approval by the county board of commissioners under this section or section 550.

(5) The reformation of the twenty-seventh and fifty-first judicial circuits under the amendatory act that added this subsection does not require a resolution of approval by the county board of commissioners under this section or section 550.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 129, Imd. Eff. May 22, 1980;—Am. 1990, Act 54, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 1990;—Am. 2002, Act 92, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003;—Am. 2012, Act 36, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2012;—Am. 2022, Act 7, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2022.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 to 5 of Act 129 of 1980 provide:

**“New circuit and district judgeships; appearance on ballot; duty of candidate; petitions; filing fee.**

“Section 2. The new circuit and district judgeships authorized by this amendatory act shall appear on the ballot separate and apart from other judicial offices on the ballot in the primary and general election in the respective circuits and district court districts. If another judicial office of the same court is to be filled by election in the same circuit, county, or district, a candidate for a new judgeship authorized in that circuit, county, or district by this amendatory act shall indicate, at the time of filing nominating petitions, whether the candidate is filing for a new judgeship or for 1 of the other judicial offices of the same court to be filled by election in 1980. Petitions for a new judgeship created pursuant to this amendatory act shall bear signatures affixed to the petition after the date by which all counties in the circuit, all district control units in the district, or, in the case of a probate judgeship, the county, have adopted the resolutions required by law to create that office. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonreturnable filing fee of \$250.00 may be paid up to 4 p.m. on June 3, 1980 in lieu of petitions for new judgeships authorized by this 1980 amendatory act which are to be filled by election in 1980.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for third judicial circuit; terms.**

“Section 3. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the third judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the 1980 general election shall be elected for a term of 8 years, and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of 6 years.

**“Additional circuit judgeship for sixteenth judicial circuit; term.**

“Section 4. If the additional circuit judgeship permitted by this amendatory act for the sixteenth judicial circuit is created pursuant to law, the first term of that judgeship shall be 8 years.

**“Change in composition of affected judicial circuits; effective date.**

“Section 5. If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1981. If the fifty-fourth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this act, the incumbent circuit judge of the fortieth judicial circuit who resides in Tuscola county shall become the judge of the fifty-fourth judicial circuit on January 1, 1981, and shall serve until the term for which he was elected in the fortieth judicial circuit expires.”

Section 2 of Act 54 of 1990 provides:

“If a new judicial circuit of the circuit court is created under this amendatory act pursuant to section 550a, the change in the composition of the affected judicial circuits shall take effect for judicial purposes on January 1, 1991. If the fifty-sixth judicial circuit is created pursuant to this amendatory act, the incumbent judge of the fifth judicial circuit who resides in Eaton county shall become the judge of the fifty-sixth judicial circuit on January 1, 1991, and shall serve until the term for which he or she was elected in the fifth judicial circuit expires.”

#### **600.551 Additional courtroom facilities in multi-judge counties.**

Sec. 551. The boards of supervisors of counties of circuits which have more than 1 circuit judge shall provide additional courtroom facilities as they are required for the prompt and orderly dispatch of business.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

#### **600.555 Circuit judge; annual salary; expenses; assisting other courts.**

Sec. 555. (1) Each circuit judge shall receive an annual salary payable by the state as calculated under this section and may receive from any county in which he or she regularly holds court an additional salary as determined from time to time by the county board of commissioners. In any county where an additional salary is granted, it shall be paid at the same rate to all circuit judges regularly holding court in that county.

(2) Each circuit judge shall receive an annual salary calculated as follows:

(a) An annual salary payable by the state that is the difference between 85% of the salary of a justice of the supreme court as of December 31, 2015 and \$45,724.00.

(b) In addition to the amount calculated under subdivision (a), a salary payable by the county or counties of the judicial circuit. The state shall reimburse to a county or counties paying an additional salary to a circuit judge \$45,724.00, if the total additional salary, including any cost-of-living allowance, payable by that county or counties to a circuit judge is neither less than nor more than \$45,724.00. If the county or counties pay a circuit judge less than or more than \$45,724.00, the county or counties are not entitled to reimbursement from the state under this subsection.

(c) In addition to the amounts under subdivisions (a) and (b), an amount payable by the state that is equal to the amounts calculated under subdivisions (a) and (b) multiplied by the compounded aggregate percentage pay increases, excluding lump-sum payments, paid to civil service nonexclusively represented employees classified as executives and administrators on or after January 1, 2016. The additional salary under this subdivision takes effect on the same date as the effective date of the pay increase paid to civil service nonexclusively represented employees classified as executives and administrators. The additional salary under

this subdivision shall not be based on a pay increase paid to civil service nonexclusively represented employees classified as executives and administrators if the effective date of the increase was before January 1, 2016.

(3) Each circuit judge who holds court in a county other than the county of his or her residence shall be reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in holding court. Each circuit judge entitled to the reimbursement shall certify the expenses incurred to the court administrator for allowance. Upon allowance by the administrator, the state treasurer shall issue a warrant on the state treasury for payment.

(4) A circuit judge whose case load is less than other circuit judges may be authorized by the supreme court or state court administrator to assist other courts and perform other judicial duties for limited periods or specific assignments. This subsection shall not be construed as a directive to the supreme court or state court administrator.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1963, Act 172, Eff. Sept. 6, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 284, Imd. Eff. July 22, 1965;—Am. 1966, Act 252, Eff. Jan. 1, 1967;—Am. 1970, Act 248, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1971;—Am. 1980, Act 438, Eff. Sept. 1, 1981;—Am. 1995, Act 259, Imd. Eff. Jan. 5, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Jan. 1, 1997;—Am. 2016, Act 31, Imd. Eff. Mar. 8, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 and 4 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.”

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**“Effective date of certain sections.**

“Section 4. Sections 304, 555, 563, 564, 567, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 641, 821, 1114, 1123, 1168, 1302, 1303, 1306, 1417, 1471, 1481, 5706, 8202, 8271, 8272, 8273, 8275, 8281, 8283, 8302, 8314, 8322, 8501, 8521, 8525, 8535, 8621, 9924, 9944, and 9947 shall take effect September 1, 1981.”

**600.557 “Senior judge” defined; assignment of senior judge to hear and decide nonjury civil action; contents and filing of stipulation; fees and costs; approval; powers, duties, and immunity of senior judge; provisions applicable to senior judge; service not constituting retirement service; public trial; site of trial; transcript; final judgment; appeal not available; enforceability of judgment; failure to assign senior judge; inability of senior judge to hear action; withdrawal of stipulation.**

Sec. 557. (1) As used in this section and sections 557a and 557b, “senior judge” means a former justice of the supreme court, or a former judge of the court of appeals, circuit court, recorder's court, probate court, district court, common pleas court, or a municipal court, who meets all of the following requirements:

- (a) Was once elected to judicial office in this state.
  - (b) At the time of assignment under this section, does not hold a judicial office by appointment or election.
  - (c) Has never been removed from judicial office pursuant to article VI or article XI of the state constitution of 1963, or as otherwise allowed by law.
  - (d) Is a member in good standing of the state bar of Michigan.
  - (e) Is a legal resident of this state.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, in any nonjury civil action pending in any court of this state, with the consent of all the parties to the action, the parties may stipulate to the assignment of a senior judge to hear and decide the action pursuant to this section and sections 557a and 557b.

(3) The stipulation shall contain all of the following:

- (a) The names of 2 senior judges, agreed upon by all the parties to the action, selected from a list of senior judges approved by the supreme court.
- (b) A realistic estimate of the number of judicial hours it will take to hear the action and to perform all of the functions required of the senior judge.
- (c) The hourly rate of compensation the parties agree to pay the senior judge for his or her services. The

hourly rate of compensation shall not be greater than an hourly rate which, if computed on a daily basis, would exceed the daily salary paid to a judge of the court in which the action is pending.

(d) A realistic estimate of the costs of trial, including notice, the services of a court reporter, the rental of an appropriate site to hold the trial, necessary expenses of the senior judge and support staff including travel, lodging, and meals, and other costs of trial as are appropriate.

(e) A determination as to who is responsible for initial payment of the costs of the action, and who is responsible for those costs upon final judgment.

(f) A realistic estimate of the cost to the local unit of government for administering the senior judge civil action fund created in section 557b, for that action.

(4) The stipulation shall be filed with the chief judge of the court in which the action is pending together with a copy of a receipt from the clerk of the court indicating that the fees and costs were deposited with the clerk of the court for deposit in the funds established in each judicial circuit pursuant to sections 557a and 557b.

(5) If the chief judge of the court in which the action is pending approves the stipulation of the parties, the stipulation shall be forwarded to the supreme court for approval and assignment of the senior judge. If the supreme court, through its direct order or through the state court administrator, approves the stipulation and assigns a senior judge named in the stipulation, the assignment takes effect upon entry of the order of approval by the chief judge.

(6) The senior judge assigned to hear the action shall exercise the same powers and duties as a judge sitting without a jury in the court in which the action is pending. The senior judge has the same immunity from criminal and civil liability in connection with the exercise of his or her powers and duties as judge as does a judge of the court in which the action is pending.

(7) All of the following are applicable to a senior judge, while hearing and deciding an action under this section:

(a) The senior judge is subject to the provisions of the code of judicial conduct.

(b) The senior judge is prohibited from holding a nonjudicial office to the same extent as a judge of the court in which the action is pending, pursuant to section 2 of article III of the state constitution of 1963.

(c) The senior judge may be censured, suspended, or removed the same as a judge of the court in which the action is pending.

(8) Service as a senior judge does not constitute service for purposes of retirement in any public retirement system in this state.

(9) A trial conducted pursuant to this section shall be a public trial.

(10) A trial conducted pursuant to this section shall be held within the venue of the court in which the action is pending. Unless the trial is held in a facility provided by the court in which the action is pending, notice of the site of the trial shall be published by the clerk of the court in which the action is pending in a legally designated newspaper circulating within the jurisdiction of the court in which the action is pending not less than 7 days before the commencement date of trial and shall be entered upon the court file of the court in which the action is pending not less than 7 days before the date of trial.

(11) A written transcript of the proceedings shall be filed in the court in which the action is pending upon the request of any party at that party's expense, or upon the request of the senior judge, in which case the expense shall be allocated by the senior judge among the parties.

(12) Except for good cause shown to the chief judge of the court in which the action is pending, a final judgment shall be entered by the senior judge within 21 days after all parties have submitted their closing proofs and arguments. An order, decision, or judgment of the senior judge is conclusive, and appeal shall not be available to any party. The order, decision, or judgment is enforceable to the same extent as an order, decision, or judgment of the court in which the action was pending.

(13) If neither of the senior judges selected by the parties is assigned by the supreme court, or if the assigned senior judge is unable to hear the action for any reason, both of the following shall apply:

(a) The parties to the stipulation may select 2 other senior judges from the list approved by the supreme court and resubmit the stipulation for approval and assignment of a senior judge to hear the action without the payment of an additional stipulation assignment fee under section 557a.

(b) Any of the parties to the stipulation may elect to withdraw the stipulation for the assignment of a senior judge and all deposits paid will be refunded except the stipulation assignment fee under section 557a.

(14) A stipulation for the assignment of a senior judge to hear the action may be withdrawn only as provided in subsection (13) or with the consent of the senior judge assigned to hear the action. Upon withdrawal of a stipulation for the assignment of a senior judge to hear the action, the action shall regain the same status it had before the filing of the stipulation or as may be ordered by the chief judge of the court in which the action is pending.



**History:** Add. 1990, Act 185, Eff. Oct. 1, 1990.

#### **600.557a Stipulation assignment fee fund.**

Sec. 557a. (1) There is established in the circuit court in each judicial circuit a stipulation assignment fee fund. A stipulation assignment fee of \$250.00 shall be paid into the fund by each party to the action. The fee is not refundable.

(2) The total fees received pursuant to subsection (1) shall be used for the provision of civil legal services through the legal aid and defender association of Detroit or through existing legal services and legal aid programs funded by the legal services corporation. By January 30 of each year, the circuit court shall distribute the fees received during the previous calendar year pursuant to subsection (1) solely to the existing civil legal services programs within its judicial circuit. If more than 1 civil legal service program exists within the judicial circuit, each program shall receive an equal share of the funds.

**History:** Add. 1990, Act 185, Eff. Oct. 1, 1990.

#### **600.557b Senior judge civil action fund.**

Sec. 557b. (1) There is established in the circuit court in each judicial circuit a senior judge civil action fund. The senior judge civil action fund shall be used to pay the compensation and costs of actions under this section. The following money shall be deposited in the senior judge civil action fund:

(a) A sum of money equal to the estimated compensation that will be due the senior judge for his or her services, costs, and actual and necessary expenses as provided in section 557(3)(b), (c), (d), and (f).

(b) A sum of money equal to the estimated costs of trial as provided in section 557(3)(d) and (f).

(c) Such other funds as provided by law or by court rule.

(2) Before receiving payment from the fund, a senior judge shall file a detailed statement of services rendered and costs incurred. The chief judge of the court in which the action is pending shall review and approve the statement. The clerk shall reimburse the senior judge for actual and necessary expenses and for services according to the hourly rate provided for in the stipulation, up to the amount deposited in the fund by the parties to the action.

(3) The senior judge may file for interim payments and need not await the conclusion of the trial to be partially compensated or reimbursed for expenses.

(4) If the chief judge of the court in which the action is pending considers at any time that the parties have not deposited a sufficient sum to cover the compensation that will be due the senior judge or for the costs of the trial, the chief judge may order the parties to deposit an additional amount to provide for compensation and costs. The chief judge may adjourn the trial until the additional amount is deposited. If the designated additional amount is not paid within 10 days after entry of an order for the additional amount, the chief judge may take such appropriate actions as considered necessary, including returning the action to the status it had before the filing of the stipulation, for failure to comply with the order for the additional amount.

(5) Money deposited in the senior judge civil action fund in excess of the actual compensation and costs of the trial shall be refunded to the parties within a reasonable time after final judgment.

**History:** Add. 1990, Act 185, Eff. Oct. 1, 1990.

#### **600.558 Repealed. 1990, Act 185, Eff. Oct. 1, 1990.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to visiting judges.

#### **600.560 Judges; absence or disability, authority of judge in adjoining circuit.**

Sec. 560. In case of the absence or disability of all the circuit judges of any judicial circuit in this state, the circuit judge of any adjoining circuit is authorized to grant any order which may be made by a circuit judge at chambers with reference to any suit or action pending or about to be brought in the circuit from which the judge or judges thereof may be absent or unable to act. A recital of such absence or disability in any order so granted shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

#### **600.562 Judges; practice of law prohibited.**

Sec. 562. The circuit court judges shall not practice as attorneys or counselors in any court of the state, nor shall they engage in the practice of law for compensation. No circuit judge may have any law partner practicing in the circuit of which he is a judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

#### **600.563, 600.564 Repealed. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed sections pertained to executive committee and executive chief judge.

## COURT OFFICERS

### **600.565 Judicial clerks; appointment, duties, salary.**

Sec. 565. (1) Upon recommendation of the circuit judges of the county, the governor may

(a) appoint the indicated number of judicial clerks in the specified circuits and counties as follows:

(i) one clerk in counties having 2 or more judges,

(ii) three or more clerks in counties having more than 1,000,000 population;

(b) remove the judicial clerks and appoint successors.

(2) The judicial clerks shall

(a) perform such duties as the circuit judges prescribe in connection with the court's business;

(b) receive an annual salary from the county, payable in monthly installments,

(i) in accordance with the official salary plan of the county where the county has adopted civil service under Act No. 370 of the Public Acts of 1941, as amended, being sections 38.401 to 38.428, inclusive, of the Compiled Laws of 1948;

(ii) as fixed and determined by the board of supervisors for the county where the county has not adopted civil service. The board of supervisors may increase the judicial clerk's salary at any regular October session.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

### **600.567 Repealed. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to executive court administrator.

### **600.571 Circuit court clerks; duties, accounting.**

Sec. 571. The county clerk of each county shall

(a) Be the clerk of the circuit court for the county.

(b) Attend the circuit court sessions.

(c) Appoint in counties with more than 1 circuit judge or having more than 100,000 population but less than 1,000,000 a deputy for each judge and approved by the judge to attend the court sessions. Each deputy shall receive a salary of at least \$6,500.00.

(d) On the first day of each court term render an accounting to the court of all funds, stocks or securities deposited with the court clerk pursuant to court order.

(e) Within 10 days after the beginning of each court term pay over to the county treasurer all fees belonging to the county received during the preceding court term together with an accounting thereof.

(f) Have the care and custody of all the records, seals, books and papers pertaining to the office of the clerk of such court, and filed or deposited therein, and shall provide such books for entering the proceedings in said court, as the judge thereof shall direct.

(g) Perform such duties as may be prescribed by court rule. Whenever in any statute of this state, the designation "register in chancery" occurs, it shall be deemed to apply to the clerk of the circuit court.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1965, Act 31, Imd. Eff. May 14, 1965;—Am. 1966, Act 343, Eff. Jan. 1, 1967.

### **600.572 Deposits with court; bond of clerk.**

Sec. 572. The circuit judge in his discretion may

(a) make and file with the clerk of the court rules and regulations concerning funds, stocks, or securities deposited with the court pursuant to court order;

(b) require the court clerk to file a bond with the county treasurer conditioned that said clerk shall, in all respects comply with the requirements of law and the court rules in the handling and management of such funds, and to faithfully account for the same.

(3) Whenever the court directs by order that stocks and securities be deposited with a court officer, they shall be taken in the name of the court clerk. Upon the death, removal from office, or resignation of a court clerk, all bank accounts, stocks, or securities vested in him by virtue of his office shall vest in his successor.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

### **600.573 Deposits with court; deposit in bank.**

Sec. 573. All funds, stocks, or securities deposited with the court for or by any person and received by the court clerk shall be deposited in a bank or otherwise safeguarded in the manner directed by the court.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

### **600.574 Deposits with court; certificate; securities, accounting.**

Sec. 574. Any funds which the clerk deposits in a bank shall be evidenced by a certificate from the bank

cashier except for stocks or securities deposited in a safety deposit box as directed by the court. The certificate shall state that the amount deposited is actually in the bank, is credited to the clerk's account, and is not mingled with any other account. Stocks or securities deposited in a safety deposit box shall be accounted for as directed by the court.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1970, Act 60, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1970.

#### **600.575 Deposits with court; payment on court order.**

Sec. 575. Funds which the clerk deposits in a bank to the credit of any officer of the court shall be paid out by the bank only upon presentation of a court order signed by the circuit judge.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

#### **600.576 Deposits with court; liability of payor.**

Sec. 576. A person depositing funds, stocks, or securities with the court clerk pursuant to court order is discharged from all further liability to the extent of the deposit.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

#### **600.579 Deputy circuit court clerks; appointment, salary.**

Sec. 579. (1) In counties having a population of more than 1,000,000 or that shall hereafter attain a population of more than 1,000,000 and that have adopted civil service under Act No. 370 of the Public Acts of 1941, as amended, being sections 38.401 to 38.428 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, the county clerk shall appoint or promote from the classified eligible list of the civil service a chief deputy circuit court clerk and at least 1 deputy circuit court clerk for each acting circuit judge in the county.

(2) In counties that may hereafter attain a population of more than 1,000,000 and that have not adopted civil service under Act No. 370 of the Public Acts of 1941, the county clerk shall appoint a chief deputy circuit court clerk and at least 1 deputy circuit court clerk for each acting circuit judge in the county.

(3) The salary of the deputy circuit court clerks shall be not less than \$10,750.00 per year; and shall be paid in the same manner and at the same time that other county employees are paid.

(4) The civil service commission, with the approval of the board of supervisors in counties of more than 1,000,000 population which have adopted civil service under Act No. 370 of the Public Acts of 1941, may, by resolution, provide for increase in the salaries of deputy circuit court clerks.

(5) The board of supervisors in counties that may hereafter attain a population of more than 1,000,000 and that have not adopted civil service under Act No. 370 of the Public Acts of 1941, may, by resolution, provide for increase in the salaries of deputy circuit court clerks.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1964, Act 103, Eff. Aug. 28, 1964;—Am. 1966, Act 343, Eff. Jan. 1, 1967.

**Compiler's note:** The bill was presented to the governor on September 12, 1966, at 11:16 a.m., and not having been returned by him to the house in which it originated became law on September 26, 1966, at 11:16 o'clock a.m., the legislature having continued in session. (See 1966 Senate Journal, p. 2472.)

#### **600.581 Sheriff and deputy; attendance at court sessions.**

Sec. 581. The sheriff of the county, or his deputy, shall attend the circuit court, probate court, and district court sessions, when requested by these courts, and the sessions of other courts as required by law. The judge in his discretion:

- (a) shall fix, determine, and regulate the attendance at court sessions of the sheriff and his deputies;
- (b) may fine the sheriff and his deputies for failure to attend.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1974, Act 297, Eff. Apr. 1, 1975.

#### **600.582 Sheriff and deputy; officers of court; powers; disobedience or default.**

Sec. 582. The sheriff and his deputies:

- (a) are officers of the court for the purpose of executing the process of the court;
- (b) may execute all lawful orders and process of the court in any county of the state;
- (c) to whom process is directed may be punished for disobedience or default therein in the manner prescribed by law.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1974, Act 297, Eff. Apr. 1, 1975.

#### **600.584 Sheriff and deputy, coroner; aid in performing duties.**

Sec. 584. The sheriff, his deputies, and any coroner or constable having the power to perform such duty may require suitable aid in

- (a) serving process in civil or criminal cases;
- (b) preserving the peace;

(c) apprehending or securing any person for felony or breach of the peace.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

**600.585 Sheriff and deputy, coroner; power of the county.**

Sec. 585. Whenever the sheriff, a deputy, coroner, or a constable encounters resistance in serving process or reasonably believes that resistance will be encountered, he may take the power of the county and proceed therewith to serve the process.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

**600.586 Sheriff, deputy sheriff, or county medical examiner licensed to practice law; prohibited conduct; exceptions; violation as civil infraction; penalty.**

Sec. 586. (1) A sheriff, deputy sheriff, or county medical examiner licensed to practice law in this state shall not do either of the following:

(a) Serve process in an action in which he or she acts as attorney or counsel for a party.

(b) Appear in court as attorney or counsel for a criminal defendant, except in a criminal or civil contempt proceeding.

(2) This section does not prohibit either of the following:

(a) A county from limiting or prohibiting the practice of law by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or county medical examiner.

(b) A sheriff from limiting or prohibiting the practice of law by a deputy sheriff.

(3) A person who violates subsection (1) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1992, Act 255, Eff. Mar. 31, 1993;—Am. 1996, Act 177, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996.

**600.587 Sheriff, constable, or other officer; wilful neglect to execute process; penalty.**

Sec. 587. A sheriff, constable, or other officer who wilfully neglects to execute any:

(a) attachment,

(b) summons,

(c) precept to summon a jury,

(d) warrant to apprehend a witness or any other person, or

(e) any other process authorized to be issued by any judge which is directed and delivered to him may be fined by the judge who issued the process in a sum not exceeding \$100.00.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963;—Am. 1974, Act 297, Eff. Apr. 1, 1975.

**600.588 Sheriff and deputy, constable; attending jury.**

Sec. 588. Any sheriff, constable, or other officer, who has summoned any jury as mentioned in section 587 above, shall attend the jury and take charge of them when required to do so by the officer issuing the summons. For any wilful neglect to obey the order to do so or for any misconduct while attending the jury, by which the rights or remedies of any party to the proceedings may be impaired or prejudiced, he shall be liable to be fined in a sum not exceeding \$100.00 by the officer before whom the jury appeared.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

**600.589 Fine; excuse, remission.**

Sec. 589. Upon any fine being imposed in any of the cases hereinbefore specified, notice thereof shall be given to the person fined, to the end that he may, within a reasonable time, render any excuse to the officer imposing such fine, or show cause why such fine should be remitted.

**History:** 1961, Act 236, Eff. Jan. 1, 1963.

**600.591 Operation of circuit court; appropriation; employer; authority; collective bargaining; appointment, supervision, discipline, or dismissal of employees; transfer of employees; effect of existing collective bargaining agreement; control of employees; applicability of subsections (2) to (9) to third judicial circuit employees; chief judge as principal administrator; "county-paid employees of the circuit court" defined.**

Sec. 591. (1) The county board of commissioners in each county shall annually appropriate, by line-item or lump-sum budget, funds for the operation of the circuit court in that county. However, before a county board of commissioners may appropriate a lump-sum budget, the chief judge of the judicial circuit shall submit to the county board of commissioners a budget request in line-item form with appropriate detail. A court that receives a line-item budget shall not exceed a line-item appropriation or transfer funds between line items



without the prior approval of the county board of commissioners. A court that receives a lump-sum budget shall not exceed that budget without the prior approval of the county board of commissioners.

(2) In a single-county circuit, the county is the employer of the county-paid employees of the circuit court in that county. In a multicounty circuit, the employer of the county-paid employees of the circuit court shall be as follows:

(a) As determined pursuant to a contract entered into by the counties within the circuit under Act No. 8 of the Public Acts of the Extra Session of 1967, being sections 124.531 to 124.536 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) If the counties within the circuit do not enter into an agreement described in subdivision (a), each county is the employer of the county-paid employees who serve in that county or who are designated by agreement of the counties within the circuit as being employed by that county.

(3) The employer of county-paid employees of the circuit court designated under subsection (2), in concurrence with the chief judge of the circuit court, has the following authority:

(a) To establish personnel policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, policies and procedures relating to compensation, fringe benefits, pensions, holidays, leave, work schedules, discipline, grievances, personnel records, probation, and hiring and termination practices.

(b) To make and enter into collective bargaining agreements with representatives of the county-paid employees of the circuit court in that county or in the counties covered by a contract entered into under subsection (2)(a).

(4) If the employer of the county-paid employees of the circuit court and the chief judge of the circuit court are not able to concur on the exercise of their authority as to any matter described in subsection (3)(a), that authority shall be exercised by either the employer or the chief judge as follows:

(a) The employer has the authority to establish policies and procedures relating to compensation, fringe benefits, pensions, holidays, and leave.

(b) The chief judge has authority to establish policies and procedures relating to work schedules, discipline, grievances, personnel records, probation, hiring and termination practices, and other personnel matters not included in subdivision (a).

(5) The employer of the county-paid employees of the circuit court designated under subsection (2) and the chief judge of the circuit court each may appoint an agent for collective bargaining conducted under subsections (3) and (4).

(6) The chief judge of the circuit court in the county may elect not to participate in the collective bargaining process for county-paid employees of the circuit court.

(7) Except as otherwise provided by law, the chief judge of the circuit court in each judicial circuit shall appoint, supervise, discipline, or dismiss the employees of the circuit court in that judicial circuit in accordance with personnel policies and procedures developed pursuant to subsection (3) or (4) and any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Compensation of the employees of the circuit court in each judicial circuit shall be paid by the county or counties comprising the judicial circuit.

(8) If the implementation of the 1996 amendatory act that amended this section requires a transfer of court employees or a change of employers, all employees of the former court employer shall be transferred to, and appointed as employees of, the appropriate employer designated under subsection (2) subject to all rights and benefits they held with the former court employer. An employee who is transferred shall not, by reason of the transfer, be placed in any worse position with respect to worker's compensation, pension, seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation, health and welfare insurance, or any other terms and conditions of employment that the employee enjoyed as an employee of the former court employer. The rights and benefits protected by this subsection may be altered by a future collective bargaining agreement or, for employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, by benefit plans as established and adopted by the employer designated under subsection (2). An employee who is transferred shall not be made subject to any residency requirements by the employer designated under subsection (2).

(9) The employer designated under subsection (2) shall assume and be bound by any existing collective bargaining agreement held by the former court employer and, except where the existing collective bargaining agreement may otherwise permit, shall retain the employees covered by that collective bargaining agreement. A transfer of court employees shall not adversely affect any existing rights and obligations contained in the existing collective bargaining agreement.

(10) When performing services in a courtroom, employees of the circuit court are subject to the control of the judge holding court in the courtroom.

(11) Subsections (2) to (9) shall not apply to the employees serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit.

(12) The role of the chief judge under this section is that of the principal administrator of the officers and

personnel of the court and is not that of a representative of a source of funding. The state is not a party to the contract. Except as otherwise provided by law, the state is not the employer of court officers or personnel and is not liable for claims arising out of the employment relationship of court officers or personnel or arising out of the conduct of court officers or personnel.

(13) As used in this section, "county-paid employees of the circuit court" means persons employed in the circuit court in a county who receive any compensation as a direct result of an annual budget appropriation approved by the county board of commissioners of that county, but does not include a judge of the circuit court.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 438, Eff. Sept. 1, 1981;—Am. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 388, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Constitutionality:** The Michigan Supreme Court held in Judicial Attorneys Association v Michigan, 459 Mich 291; 597 NW2d 113 (1999), that MCL 600.593a (3)-(10) and parallel provisions of MCL 600.591, 600.837, 600.8271, 600.8273, and 600.8274 violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2 and are unconstitutional.

1996 PA 374 provided that a local council created pursuant to the act or Wayne County became the employer of the employees of the Third Circuit and Recorder's Courts. The Court ruled that because subsections (3)-(10) of MCL 600.593a are not a sufficiently limited exercise by one branch of another branch's power that they impermissibly interfere with the judiciary's inherent authority to manage its internal operations and, therefore, are unconstitutional because they violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2 and 4 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**"Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

"Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

"(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978."

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**"Effective date of certain sections.**

"Section 4. Sections 304, 555, 563, 564, 567, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 641, 821, 1114, 1123, 1168, 1302, 1303, 1306, 1417, 1471, 1481, 5706, 8202, 8271, 8272, 8273, 8275, 8281, 8283, 8302, 8314, 8322, 8501, 8521, 8525, 8535, 8621, 9924, 9944, and 9947 shall take effect September 1, 1981."

## **600.592 Repealed. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to employees of state judicial council serving in circuit court in third judicial circuit.

## **600.593 Employee of circuit court in third judicial circuit as employee of Wayne county judicial council or of Wayne county.**

Sec. 593. Effective October 1, 1996, each employee of the former state judicial council serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit shall become an employee of the Wayne county judicial council if that council is created pursuant to section 593a, or, if that council is not created, shall become an employee of the county of Wayne.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 438, Eff. Sept. 1, 1981;—Am. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Constitutionality:** The Michigan Supreme Court held in Judicial Attorneys Association v Michigan, 459 Mich 291; 597 NW2d 113 (1999), that MCL 600.593a (3)-(10) and parallel provisions of MCL 600.591, 600.837, 600.8271, 600.8273, and 600.8274 violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2 and are unconstitutional.

1996 PA 374 provided that a local council created pursuant to the act or Wayne County became the employer of the employees of the Third Circuit and Recorder's Courts. The Court ruled that because subsections (3)-(10) of MCL 600.593a are not a sufficiently limited exercise by one branch of another branch's power that they impermissibly interfere with the judiciary's inherent authority to manage its internal operations and, therefore, are unconstitutional because they violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2.

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**"Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

"Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

"(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level

of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978."

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**"Effective date of certain sections.**

"Section 4. Sections 304, 555, 563, 564, 567, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 641, 821, 1114, 1123, 1168, 1302, 1303, 1306, 1417, 1471, 1481, 5706, 8202, 8271, 8272, 8273, 8275, 8281, 8283, 8302, 8314, 8322, 8501, 8521, 8525, 8535, 8621, 9924, 9944, and 9947 shall take effect September 1, 1981."

**600.593a Wayne county judicial council; creation; successor agency; composition; employees of former state judicial council serving in third judicial circuit court; authority of employer or chief judge; collective bargaining agent; election not to participate in collective bargaining process; appointment, supervision, discipline, or dismissal of employees; compensation; chief judge as principal administrator; transfer of employees; effect of existing collective bargaining agreement; annual leave; state employees' retirement system.**

Sec. 593a. (1) The county board of commissioners of the county of Wayne, by resolution, may create the Wayne county judicial council. The council shall be created not later than September 30, 1996, and, if created, shall begin exercising its powers and duties effective October 1, 1996.

(2) The Wayne county judicial council, if created, shall be a successor agency to the state judicial council and, effective October 1, 1996, shall be the employer of those employees of the former state judicial council assigned to serve in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. The composition of the Wayne county judicial council and its powers and duties shall be as prescribed by resolution of the county board of commissioners of the county of Wayne.

(3) If the Wayne county judicial council is not created pursuant to subsection (1), the employees of the former state judicial council serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit or in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit shall become employees of the county of Wayne, effective October 1, 1996.

(4) The employer designated under subsection (2) or (3), in concurrence with the chief judge of the appropriate court, has the following authority:

(a) To establish personnel policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, policies and procedures relating to compensation, fringe benefits, pensions, holidays, leave, work schedules, discipline, grievances, personnel records, probation, and hiring and termination practices.

(b) To make and enter into collective bargaining agreements with representatives of those employees.

(5) If the employer designated under subsection (2) or (3) and the appropriate chief judge are not able to concur on the exercise of their authority as to any matter described in subsection (4)(a), that authority shall be exercised by either the employer or the chief judge as follows:

(a) The employer has the authority to establish policies and procedures relating to compensation, fringe benefits, pensions, holidays, and leave.

(b) The chief judge has authority to establish policies and procedures relating to work schedules, discipline, grievances, personnel records, probation, hiring and termination practices, and other personnel matters not included in subdivision (a).

(6) The employer and the chief judge each may appoint an agent for collective bargaining conducted under subsections (4) and (5).

(7) The chief judge of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit or of the recorder's court may elect not to participate in the collective bargaining process for the employees in that court.

(8) Except as otherwise provided by law, the chief judge of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit or of the recorder's court shall appoint, supervise, discipline, or dismiss the employees of that court in accordance with personnel policies and procedures developed pursuant to subsection (4) or (5) and any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Compensation of the employees serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit shall be paid by the county of Wayne.

(9) The role of the chief judge under this section is that of the principal administrator of the officers and personnel of the court and is not that of a representative of a source of funding. The state is not a party to the contract. Except as otherwise provided by law, the state is not the employer of court officers or personnel and

is not liable for claims arising out of the employment relationship of court officers or personnel or arising out of the conduct of court officers or personnel.

(10) All employees of the former state judicial council serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit or in the recorder's court shall be transferred to, and appointed as, employees of the appropriate employer designated under subsection (2) or (3), subject to all rights and benefits they held with the former court employer. An employee who is transferred shall not, by reason of the transfer, be placed in any worse position with respect to worker's compensation, pension, seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation, health and welfare insurance, or any other terms and conditions of employment that the employee enjoyed as an employee of the former court employer. The rights and benefits protected by this subsection may be altered by a future collective bargaining agreement or, for employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, by benefit plans as established and adopted by the employer designated under subsection (2) or (3). An employee who is transferred shall not be made subject to any residency requirements by the employer designated under subsection (2) or (3).

(11) The appropriate employer designated under subsection (2) or (3) shall assume and be bound by any existing collective bargaining agreement held by the former state judicial council and, except where the existing collective bargaining agreement may otherwise permit, shall retain the employees covered by that collective bargaining agreement. A transfer of court employees shall not adversely affect any existing rights and obligations contained in the existing collective bargaining agreement.

(12) Annual leave which an employee of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit or the recorder's court of the city of Detroit has accumulated before October 1, 1996, shall be transferred with the employee as a result of the employee becoming an employee of the employer designated under subsection (2) or (3). Before January 1, 1997, the state shall pay to the county of Wayne the value of annual leave accumulated before October 1, 1996 in excess of 160 hours for each state judicial council employee who becomes an employee of the employer designated under subsection (2) or (3). The value of accumulated annual leave that is paid to the county of Wayne shall include the annual payroll factor of 23.62% for FICA and retirement for the state fiscal year beginning October 1, 1995.

(13) The appropriate employer designated under subsection (2) or (3) shall pay to the state employees' retirement system, on a quarterly basis, an amount based upon the contribution rates determined under section 38 of the state employees' retirement act, Act No. 240 of the Public Acts of 1943, being section 38.38 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, in the manner prescribed by the state employees' retirement system.

**History:** Add. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 388, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Constitutionality:** The Michigan Supreme Court held in Judicial Attorneys Association v Michigan, 459 Mich 291; 597 NW2d 113 (1999), that MCL 600.593a (3)-(10) and parallel provisions of MCL 600.591, 600.837, 600.8271, 600.8273, and 600.8274 violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2 and are unconstitutional.

1996 PA 374 provided that a local council created pursuant to the act or Wayne County became the employer of the employees of the Third Circuit and Recorder's Courts. The Court ruled that because subsections (3)-(10) of MCL 600.593a are not a sufficiently limited exercise by one branch of another branch's power that they impermissibly interfere with the judiciary's inherent authority to manage its internal operations and, therefore, are unconstitutional because they violate the separation of powers clause of Const 1963, art 3, § 2.

#### **600.594 Employee as member of state employees' retirement system.**

Sec. 594. An employee of the former state judicial council serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit who becomes an employee of the Wayne county judicial council or the county of Wayne serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit on October 1, 1996 shall remain a member of the state employees' retirement system created by the state employees' retirement act, Act No. 240 of the Public Acts of 1943, being sections 38.1 to 38.49 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. An employee of the former state judicial council serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit who becomes an employee of the Wayne county judicial council or the county of Wayne serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit on October 1, 1996 shall remain a member of the state employees' retirement system created by the state employees' retirement act, Act No. 240 of the Public Acts of 1943, being sections 38.1 to 38.49 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The employer of the employees described in this section shall submit the reports and contributions required under section 44a of the state employees' retirement act, Act No. 240 of the Public Acts of 1943, being section 38.44a of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 438, Eff. Sept. 1, 1981;—Am. 1981, Act 14, Eff. May 1, 1981;—Am. 1984, Act 319, Eff. Feb. 8, 1985;—Am. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 388, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.



“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.”

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**“Effective date of Chapter 91 and certain sections.**

“Section 3. Chapter 91 and sections 224, 541, 549f, 594, 595, 8121a, 8275, 9941, 9943, 9945, and 9946 shall take effect May 1, 1981.”

**“Effective date of certain sections.**

“Section 4. Sections 304, 555, 563, 564, 567, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 641, 821, 1114, 1123, 1168, 1302, 1303, 1306, 1417, 1471, 1481, 5706, 8202, 8271, 8272, 8273, 8275, 8281, 8283, 8302, 8314, 8322, 8501, 8521, 8525, 8535, 8621, 9924, 9944, and 9947 shall take effect September 1, 1981.”

Section 2 of Act 14 of 1981 provides:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act and Act Nos. 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, and 443 of the Public Acts of 1980.

“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act and Act Nos. 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, and 443 of the Public Acts of 1980, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or Act Nos. 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, and 443 of the Public Acts of 1980, which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.”

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

Sections 2 and 3 of Act 319 of 1984 provide:

**“Applicability of changes effected in MCL 600.594(2) and 600.8275(2).**

“Section 2. The changes effected in sections 594(2) and 8275(2) by this amendatory act shall apply as though the changes were in effect on September 1, 1981.

**“Conditional effective date.**

“Section 3. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the county of Wayne, by resolution adopted before the expiration of 45 days after the effective date of this amendatory act by the governing body of the county, agrees to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the county by this amendatory act and unless an authenticated copy is filed with the secretary of state not later than 4 p.m. on the forty-fifth day after the effective date of this amendatory act.

“(2) If the county of Wayne, acting through its governing body, agrees to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the county by this amendatory act, that action constitutes an exercise of the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the county of all expenses which may result from this amendatory act.”

A resolution agreeing to assume responsibility for expenses, referred to in (1) immediately above, was adopted by the Wayne County Board of Commissioners on February 7, 1985, and was filed with the Secretary of State at 11:00 a.m. on February 8, 1985.

## **600.595 Circuit court in third judicial circuit; ownership and use of personal property; reimbursement for property removed from court.**

Sec. 595. All personal property, including equipment and furniture, that was owned by the circuit court in the third judicial circuit on the effective date of the 1996 amendatory act that amended this section or that was owned and furnished by the state of Michigan to the circuit court in the third judicial circuit on the effective date of the 1996 amendatory act that amended this section and all personal property subsequently purchased by or furnished to that court, shall remain with the court until October 1, 1996, at which time the property shall become the property of the county of Wayne, and shall continue to be used to the benefit of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit. The state shall reimburse the county of Wayne for any property furnished by the state to the court which is removed from the court between June 27, 1996, and the effective date of the 1996 amendatory act that amended this section.

**History:** Add. 1980, Act 438, Eff. Sept. 1, 1981;—Am. 1996, Act 374, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Compiler's note:** Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Act 438 of 1980 provide:

**“Conditional effective date; action constituting exercise of option; effect of exercising option.**

“Section 2. (1) This amendatory act shall not take effect unless the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, by resolutions adopted not later than May 1, 1981, by the governing bodies of the city and the county, respectively, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city or the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect.

“(2) If the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne, acting through their governing bodies, agree to assume responsibility for any expenses required of the city and the county by this amendatory act, and the bills listed in enacting section 7 which are enacted and take effect, that action constitutes an exercise of the city's and the county's option to provide a new activity or service or to increase the level of activity or service offered in the city of Detroit and the county of Wayne beyond that required by existing law, as the elements of that option are defined by Act No. 101 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 21.231 to 21.244 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and a voluntary acceptance by the city and the county of all expenses and capital improvements which may result from establishment of the district court in the thirty-sixth district and the reorganization of the circuit court in the third judicial circuit and the recorder's court of the city of Detroit. However, the exercise of the option does not affect the state's obligation to pay the same portion of each district or circuit judge's salary which is paid by the state to the other district or circuit judges, or to appropriate and disburse funds to the district control units, city, or county, for the necessary costs of state requirements established by a state law, other than this amendatory act or the bills listed in enacting section 7 which becomes effective on or after December 23, 1978.”

The resolutions referred to in Section 2 were adopted by the city council of the city of Detroit on April 29, 1981, and by the board of commissioners of the county of Wayne on April 30, 1981.

**“Effective date of Chapter 91 and certain sections.**

“Section 3. Chapter 91 and sections 224, 541, 549f, 594, 595, 8121a, 8275, 9941, 9943, 9945, and 9946 shall take effect May 1, 1981.”

**“Effective date of certain sections.**

“Section 4. Sections 304, 555, 563, 564, 567, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 641, 821, 1114, 1123, 1168, 1302, 1303, 1306, 1417, 1471, 1481, 5706, 8202, 8271, 8272, 8273, 8275, 8281, 8283, 8302, 8314, 8322, 8501, 8521, 8525, 8535, 8621, 9924, 9944, and 9947 shall take effect September 1, 1981.”

**600.596 Employees of Detroit recorder's court transferred to third judicial circuit court; rights and benefits; collective bargaining agreement.**

Sec. 596. (1) The county-paid employees serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit as of September 30, 1997 shall become county-paid employees serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit on October 1, 1997.

(2) A county-paid employee serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit who becomes a county-paid employee serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit under subsection (1) shall not, by reason of the transfer, be placed in any worse position with respect to worker's compensation, pension, seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation, health and welfare insurance, or any other terms and conditions of employment that the employee enjoyed as an employee of the former court employer. The rights and benefits protected by this section may be altered by a future collective bargaining agreement or, for employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements, by benefit plans as established and adopted by the employer designated under section 593a(2) or (3).

(3) The employer of county-paid employees serving in the circuit court in the third judicial circuit shall assume and be bound by any existing collective bargaining agreement held by the former employer of the employees serving in the recorder's court of the city of Detroit and, except where the existing collective bargaining agreement may otherwise permit, shall retain the employees covered by that collective bargaining agreement. A transfer of employees shall not adversely affect any existing rights and obligations contained in the existing collective bargaining agreement.

**History:** Add. 1996, Act 388, Eff. Oct. 1, 1997.