

2017 Regular Session

ACT No. 68

HOUSE BILL NO. 620

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENRY, BARRAS, BROADWATER, FOIL, JACKSON,  
JOHNSON, LEGER, AND MAGEE AND SENATORS ALARIO AND LAFLEUR

1 AN ACT

2 To appropriate funds to defray the expenses of the Louisiana Judiciary, including the  
3 Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, District Courts, Criminal District Court of Orleans  
4 Parish, and other courts; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1.A. The sum of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Million Three Hundred Ninety-  
7 Four Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Nine No/100 (\$187,394,369.00) Dollars, or so much  
8 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of the judiciary,  
9 including the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, the District Courts, the Criminal District  
10 Court of Orleans Parish, and of the other courts.

11 B. The total amount herein appropriated is hereby allocated to provide as follows:

12 **03-8170 SUPREME COURT**

13 **Program Description:** *The Supreme Court has general supervisory jurisdiction*  
14 *over all lower courts. It may establish procedural and administrative rules not in*  
15 *conflict with law and may assign a sitting or retired judge to any court. The*  
16 *Supreme Court has sole authority to provide by rule for appointments of attorneys*  
17 *as temporary or ad hoc judges. It considers applications for writs to review*  
18 *individual cases, and has criminal and other appellate jurisdiction. The Supreme*  
19 *Court has exclusive original jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against*  
20 *lawyers, recommendations of the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana for the*  
21 *discipline of judges, and fact questions affecting its appellate jurisdiction. It has*  
22 *inherent authority to regulate the legal profession and to promulgate and update*  
23 *the Code of Judicial Conduct. The court also provides judicial training through the*  
24 *Judicial College and works to improve the administration of justice.*

25 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Supreme Court of Louisiana is to protect*  
26 *and promote the rule of law, to ensure public trust, to use public resources*  
27 *efficiently, to ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence*  
28 *of both the bench and the bar, and to ensure the proper administration and*  
29 *performance of all courts under its authority.*

30 **Goal:** To protect the rule of law.

31 **Objective:** To provide a reasonable opportunity for litigants to seek review in the  
32 Supreme Court of decisions made by lower tribunals.

33 **General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Total Filings	2,716	2,365	2,283
Total Appeals Filed	12	6	9
Total Writs Filed	2,496	2,172	2,092
Total Dispositions Rendered	2,592	2,486	2,142

**Goal:** To promote the rule of law.

**Objective:** To resolve cases in a timely manner.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Percentage of noncriminal case applications acted on within Supreme Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	91.8%	97.1%	94.1%
<i>Percentage of criminal case applications acted on within Supreme Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	30.7%	36.1%	48.7%
<i>Percentage of pro se post conviction applications acted on within Supreme Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	2.1%	3%	26%
<i>Percentage of bar disciplinary filings acted upon within Supreme Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	95.2%	97%	93.6%
<i>Percentage of opinions rendered within Supreme Court standard of 84 days from argument</i>	81.5%	75.8%	66.7%

**Goal:** To ensure the public trust.

**Objective:** To facilitate public access to Supreme Court decisions.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Percentage of written opinions available to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

**Objective:** To inform the public of operations and activities.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Number of outreach programs</i>	58	100	60
<i>Number of media releases on court decisions</i>	64	66	78
<i>Number of media releases on other matters</i>	25	17	24
<i>Number of recipients of releases on court decisions</i>	1,485	1,632	1,775
<i>Number of recipients of releases on other matters</i>	3,633	4,700	6,010

**Objective:** To ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence of the bench.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Average number of hours acquired through continuing legal education per judge</i>	33.59	34.25	30.08
<i>Number of complaints filed against judges and justices of the peace</i>	495	529	545
<i>Number of complaints against judges and justices of the peace resolved or disposed of in the calendar year</i>	477	601	582

**Objective:** To ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence of the bar.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Average number of hours acquired through continuing legal education per lawyer</i>	14.92	15.12	15.08
<i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers</i>	3,040	2,950	2,922
<i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers resolved or disposed of in calendar year</i>	3,140	3,046	2,673

Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct):

01	Salaries of one (1) Chief Justice and six (6) Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, as provided by R.S. 13:102	\$1,125,128
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1	02	Salaries and other expenses of the	
2		Supreme Court Proper and salary of	
3		the Crier of the Supreme Court	\$ 10,654,654
4	03	Expenses of Judicial Administrator's	
5		Office and of the Judiciary Commission	
6		provided for in Article V, Section	
7		25 of the Constitution of Louisiana and	
8		under the provisions of R.S. 13:32 et seq.	
9	A.	Expenses of Judicial Administrator's Office	\$ 5,278,486
10	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judicial Administrator's Office assists the Supreme Court in the</i>		
11	<i>administration of the state court system. It staffs the Judicial Council and the Judiciary Commission</i>		
12	<i>of Louisiana. Through the Judicial Council, it performs studies and makes recommendations for the</i>		
13	<i>creation of new judgeships and for improving the administration of justice. The Judicial</i>		
14	<i>Administrator's Office provides payroll and other fiscal services to the Judiciary, including the</i>		
15	<i>administration of a judicial retirement system; support for the Supreme Court and Appellate Court</i>		
16	<i>human resource system; technological services to courts; and, manages the Trial Court Case</i>		
17	<i>Management Information System. The Judicial Administrator's Office also manages the ad hoc</i>		
18	<i>judgeship system, monitors cases under advisement, provides outreach services to state and local</i>		
19	<i>courts, staffs the Committee on Judicial Ethics, and performs numerous legal services for the Supreme</i>		
20	<i>Court and the Judiciary.</i>		
21	B.	Expenses of Judiciary Commission	\$ 2,068,854
22	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judiciary Commission of Louisiana is a constitutional body established</i>		
23	<i>under Article V, Section 25 of the Constitution of 1974 to accept, screen, investigate, and prosecute</i>		
24	<i>complaints of judicial misconduct. As part of its authority, it may recommend to the Supreme Court</i>		
25	<i>the censure, suspension, removal from office, or involuntary retirement of any judge for ethical</i>		
26	<i>misconduct.</i>		
27	C.	Court Reporters; Statistical Reporting Systems	\$ 420,020
28	D.	Dues to National Center for State Courts	\$ 158,650
29	04	Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board,	
30		as per Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XIX	\$ 3,000
31	05	Compensation and expenses of retired	
32		judges assigned under Article V,	
33		Section 5(A) of the Constitution of	
34		Louisiana, be it more or less estimated at	\$ 1,416,000
35	06	Law Library of Louisiana for salaries,	
36		services, supplies, maintenance, repairs,	
37		and equipment	\$ 2,060,337
38	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Law Library of Louisiana serves the legal information needs of the state</i>		
39	<i>judiciary, and is open to members of the bar and public.</i>		
40	07	Salaries and expenses of transferred	
41		judges assigned under Article V,	
42		Section 5(A) of the Constitution,	
43		be it more or less estimated as	\$ 146,663
44	08	Retirement pay for services rendered by	
45		justices and judges of all courts, as	
46		provided by R.S. 11:1358 and	
47		R.S. 13:103	\$ 1,365,669
48	09	Pensions for widows of justices and	
49		judges of all courts, as provided by	
50		R.S. 11:1371 and R.S. 11:1381, be it	
51		more or less estimated at	\$ 1,469,984

1	10	Judicial College	\$	303,725
2	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judicial College was established by order of the Supreme Court in 1976</i>			
3	<i>to provide continuing legal education to Louisiana judges.</i>			
4	11	State contribution to judicial		
5		retirement provided for in Article V,		
6		Section 23 of the Constitution and		
7		R.S. 11:551 et seq., be it more or		
8		less estimated at	\$	19,013,380
9	12	Civil commitment matters as		
10		required by R.S. 28:54	\$	204,000
11	13	Paul M. Hebert Law Center for the expenses		
12		of storage of appellate court records	\$	60,000
13	14	Funding for statewide operations of the		
14		Louisiana Protective Order Registry		
15		(R.S. 46:2136.2) under the Case		
16		Management Information System	\$	1,368,548
17	15	Information Technology	\$	1,104,532
18	16	Payable out of the State General Fund for the		
19		expenses associated with the operation of the		
20		Families in Need of Services Program (FINS)	\$	2,354,780
21	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The mission of the FINS Assistance Program is to assist local FINS processes</i>			
22	<i>by developing and implementing a needs-based allocation formula; developing, implementing, and</i>			
23	<i>mandating the use of a uniform data system for tracking, managing, and reporting FINS informal</i>			
24	<i>cases; developing and mandating the use of programmatic standards; developing, implementing, and</i>			
25	<i>reporting performance indicators and measures; requiring and monitoring periodic fiscal reports and</i>			
26	<i>financial accountability; and, generally supervising and assisting local FINS processes in other ways.</i>			
27	17	Drug court maintenance and enhancement	\$	11,745,514
28	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>Drug treatment courts, authorized in 1997 by R.S. 13:5301 through R.S.</i>			
29	<i>13:5304, provided integrated substance abuse treatment, sanctions, and incentives with case</i>			
30	<i>processing to place low-level, nonviolent drug-involved defendants in community-based, judicially</i>			
31	<i>supervised rehabilitation programs. Clients are regularly tested and monitored for compliance with</i>			
32	<i>educational, employment, and treatment requirements set by the court.</i>			
33	18	Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$	2,965,884
34	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The purpose of the CASA Assistance Program is to promote timely placement</i>			
35	<i>of children in need of care in permanent, safe and stable homes, in accordance with the provisions</i>			
36	<i>of Children's Code articles 424-426. Services are provided through local CASA programs which</i>			
37	<i>recruit, screen, train and supervise community advocates. Upon appointment by the trial judge,</i>			
38	<i>qualified advocates serve children by providing independent factual information to the judge,</i>			
39	<i>advocating for the best interest of the children, monitoring cases to which they have been assigned,</i>			
40	<i>and advising and assisting the judge in the determination of the best interest of the children involved.</i>			
41	TOTAL - GENERAL FUND			<u>\$ 65,287,808</u>
42	19	Payable out of the State General Fund		
43		from Statutory Dedications, Judges'		
44		Supplemental Compensation Fund,		
45		R. S. 13:10.3, be it more or less		
46		estimated at	\$	6,223,724
47	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund was established by the</i>			
48	<i>Legislature in 1985 to fund salary supplements and salary-related expenses to judges and</i>			
49	<i>commissioners. The funding source is a non-refundable filing fee assessed on civil filings as provided</i>			
50	<i>in R.S. 13:10.3.</i>			

1	20	Payable out of the State General Fund	
2		from Statutory Dedications, Trial Court	
3		Case Management Information Fund, for	
4		the Case Management Information System,	
5		Article 887 (F) of the Code of Criminal	
6		Procedure, be it more or less estimated at	<u>\$ 4,017,201</u>

**Program Description:** *The Case Management Information System (CMIS) was created by the Supreme Court in 1993 to provide a statewide information system for tracking and managing criminal, civil, juvenile, traffic, and appellate cases as well as protective orders. Data is received from courts statewide, transferred to the CMIS repository, and made available to courts and executive branch agencies. Additional information will also be available from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections. CMIS is funded from a court cost assessed on all criminal and traffic convictions as provided under C.Cr.P.887(F).*

14	TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND	
15	BY STATUTORY DEDICATIONS	<u>\$ 10,240,925</u>

16	21 Drug court maintenance and enhancement, payable	
17	out of the State General Fund through Interagency	
18	Transfers from the Department of Children and	
19	Family Services	\$ 5,400,000

20	22	Court Appointed Special Advocates, payable out of		
21		the State General Fund through Interagency Transfers		
22		from the Department of Children and Family		
23		Services	\$	3,992,850

24	TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND	
25	THROUGH INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS	\$ 9,392,850

26	TOTAL SUPREME COURT	\$ 84,921,583
27	<b>03-8171 COURTS OF APPEAL</b>	

**Program Description:** *The five courts of appeal, domiciled in Baton Rouge, Shreveport, Lake Charles, New Orleans, and Gretna, have supervisory jurisdiction over all cases arising within their respective circuits, subject to the general supervisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Each court of appeal also has appellate jurisdiction over all civil matters, all matters appealed from family and juvenile courts, and all criminal cases triable by a jury which arise within its circuit, except for those cases appealable directly to the Supreme Court or to the district courts.*

**Mission Statement:** *The mission of the appellate courts of Louisiana is to provide meaningful access to all who seek review under the Courts' appellate and supervisory jurisdiction granted by the Louisiana Constitution while protecting and promoting the rule of law, preserving the public trust, and using public resources efficiently.*

41           **Goal:** To protect the rule of law.

42 **Objective:** To provide a reasonable opportunity for multi-judge review of  
43 decisions made by lower tribunals.

**General Performance Information:**

		<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
45				
46	<i>Total appeals filed</i>	2,050	2,053	1,783
47	<i>Total writs filed</i>	4,325	4,048	3,670
48	<i>Total dispositions rendered</i>	5,741	5,019	4,761

49           **Goal:** To promote the rule of law.

**Objective:** To resolve cases expeditiously.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Average number of days from lodging of the appeal to argument:</i>			
<i>Time Standard = no more than 175 days.</i>			
<i>Criminal cases</i>	151	143	162
<i>Civil Cases</i>	149	147	155
<i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	149	146	158

*Average number of days from argument to rendering of the opinion:*

*Time Standard = no more than 70 days.*

<i>Criminal cases</i>	38	43	43
<i>Civil cases</i>	44	43	42
<i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	43	43	43

**Goal:** To preserve public trust.

**Objective:** To facilitate public access to the decisions of the courts of appeal.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
<i>Percentage of written opinions available to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

**Payable out of the State General Fund:**

01	Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges and forty-eight (48) Judges of the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311	\$ 7,912,546
02	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, First Circuit	\$ 10,469,867
03	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, Second Circuit	\$ 5,868,157
04	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, Third Circuit	\$ 8,930,244
05	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit	\$ 8,347,759
06	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit	\$ 6,022,679
<b>TOTAL COURTS OF APPEAL</b>		<b><u>\$ 47,551,252</u></b>

**03-8172 DISTRICT COURTS**

**Program Description:** *There are forty-one district courts in Louisiana that have general jurisdiction over all matters within their territorial limits, except in those judicial districts (the 1st, the 19th, and the 24th Judicial Districts) where family and juvenile courts have exclusive jurisdiction over certain types of cases and except in Orleans Parish where there are separate courts exercising civil, criminal, and juvenile jurisdictions, respectively. In certain cases, the forty-one general jurisdiction courts have concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace and parish courts. The district courts generally have appellate jurisdiction of criminal cases tried by city, parish, municipal, traffic, and mayors' courts, except in certain cases. The district courts also have appellate jurisdiction over justices of the peace in parishes where no parish courts exist. The Civil District Court of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction of all civil cases in that parish. The Criminal District Court*

of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction over all criminal cases in the parish. It also has general supervisory jurisdiction over the municipal and traffic courts in Orleans Parish. The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish has exclusive jurisdiction of many domestic cases in the parish. The four juvenile courts located in Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, and Orleans parishes have exclusive jurisdiction of juvenile cases in their respective parishes.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the trial courts of Louisiana is to provide access to justice, to meet all responsibilities in a timely and expeditious manner, to provide equality, fairness, and integrity in their proceedings, to maintain judicial independence and accountability, and to reach a fair and just result by adherence to the procedural and substantive law, thereby instilling trust and confidence in the public.

**Goal:** To establish a more open and accessible system of justice.

**Objective:** To encourage responsible parties to make court facilities safe, accessible, and convenient.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating actions taken in FY 2015-2016 to improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	97.9%	93.8%	81.3%

**Objective:** To encourage all responsible public bodies and public officers to make the costs of access to the trial court's proceedings and records - whether measured in terms of money, time, or the procedures that must be followed - reasonable, fair, and affordable.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating actions taken in FY 2015-2016 to assist self-represented litigants	97.9%	97.9%	85.4%

**Goal:** To meet all responsibilities to everyone affected by the court and its activities in a timely and expeditious manner.

**Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Number of parishes reporting criminal disposition data to CMIS	64	64	64
Percentage of parishes reporting criminal disposition data to CMIS	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating that their courts had taken steps within FY 2015-2016 to reduce delays and improve the timeliness of case processing	91.7%	97.9%	87.5%

**Objective:** To enhance jury service.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating that their court had taken steps within FY 2015-2016 to make jury service more convenient or effective	93%	100%	90.7%

**Goal:** To provide due process and equal protection of the law to all who have business before the court; and to demonstrate integrity in all procedures and decisions.

**Objective:** To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court operations as necessary.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating actions taken in FY 2015-2016 to improve employee training and development	95.8%	87.5%	85.4%

1        *Percentage of surveyed district court chief*  
2        *judges indicating actions taken in*  
3        *FY 2015-2016 to install or implement*  
4        *technologies*                      95.8%            100%            91.7%

5        **Goal:** To maintain judicial independence, while observing the principle of comity  
6        in its governmental relations and accountability to the public.

7        **Objective:** To inform the community of the court's structure and function.

8        **General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
9 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief</i>			
10 <i>judges indicating that their courts regularly</i>			
11 <i>provided public education and public</i>			
12 <i>outreach services in FY 2015-2016</i>	89.6%	97.9%	87.5%

14       Payable out of the State General Fund:

15       01       Salaries of one hundred ninety-one			
16              (191) District Judges as provided			
17              by R.S. 13:691		\$	27,187,586

18       02       Office and travel expenses of District			
19              Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698 and			
20              R.S. 13:694, respectively		\$	1,285,250

21       03       Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of			
22              Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,			
23              as provided by R.S. 13:691		\$	1,992,807

24       04       Expenses of Judges of Civil District			
25              Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries			
26              of stenographers, clerks, law books,			
27              stationery, telephone, and like expenses			
28              as provided by R.S. 13:698		\$	80,500

29       05       Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters			
30              of the Twentieth Judicial District Court,			
31              including retirement contributions, as			
32              provided by R.S. 13:966.1		\$	117,697

33       06       Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans			
34              Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)		\$	10,000

35       07       State share of Group, Workers'			
36              Compensation, General Liability,			
37              and Property Insurance Premiums			
38              as provided by R.S.42:851		\$	7,471,735

39       08       Salaries of two (2) commissioners of			
40              the Nineteenth Judicial District and			
41              one (1) commissioner of the Fifteenth			
42              Judicial District as provided by			
43              R.S. 13:712 and R.S. 13:715,			
44              respectively		\$	569,959

45       09       Office expenses for the Judicial			
46              Expense Fund of the Nineteenth Judicial			
47              District Court as provided by			
48              R.S. 13:711-713		\$	470,893



1	10	Office expenses for the Judicial		
2		Expense Fund of the Fifteenth		
3		Judicial District Court as provided		
4		by R.S. 13:714-716	\$	304,827
5	11	Law Clerk, Twentieth Judicial District		
6		Court as provided by Act 747 of 1977	\$	51,118
7	12	For the expenses of the Judicial Expense		
8		Fund, Tenth Judicial District Court as		
9		provided by Act 57 of 2006	\$	<u>35,000</u>
10		SUBTOTAL	\$	<u>39,577,372</u>
11	13	Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans		
12		<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans has exclusive jurisdiction of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of Orleans, if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court. The court, through its magistrate and with assistance from its commissioners, has the power of committing magistrates in all felony charges and the power to hold preliminary examinations, with authority to bail or discharge, or to hold for trial, in all cases before the court. The court has appellate jurisdiction of all cases tried before the Municipal Court of New Orleans and the Traffic Court of New Orleans and has general supervisory jurisdiction over these courts.</i>		
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20	A.	Salaries of thirteen (13) District Judges of		
21		Criminal Court, Orleans Parish as provided		
22		by R.S. 13:691	\$	1,850,464
23	B.	Office expenses of Judges of Criminal Court,		
24		Orleans Parish as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$	74,750
25	C.	State's share of group insurance for the personnel		
26		of Criminal Court as provided by R.S. 42:851	\$	736,127
27	D.	Salaries of thirteen (13) minute clerks as provided		
28		by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$	288,063
29	E.	Salaries of twenty-six (26) court reporters as		
30		provided by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$	454,091
31	F.	Salaries of four (4) commissioners of Criminal		
32		Court, Orleans Parish, including related benefits		
33		as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$	503,908
34	G.	Office and travel expenses of commissioners as		
35		provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$	10,600
36	H.	Salaries of four (4) minute clerks, one for each		
37		commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$	75,371
38	I.	Salaries of four (4) court reporters, one for each		
39		commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$	57,311
40	J.	Salaries of Judicial Administrator, and assistants,		
41		including related benefits	\$	1,007,453
42	K.	Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks	\$	733,824
43	L.	Salaries of four (4) secretaries	\$	212,661
44	M.	Sanity Commissions	\$	200,000

1	N. Board of Jury Commissioners	\$ 434,248
2	SUBTOTAL	\$ 6,638,871
3	14 Juvenile and Family Court Judges	
4	A. Salaries of fourteen (14) Juvenile Court	
5	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,992,807
6	B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court Judges	
7	as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 569,374
8	C. Office and travel expenses of Juvenile and Family	
9	Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698	
10	and R.S. 13:694, respectively	\$ 103,500
11	SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,665,681
12	TOTAL DISTRICT COURTS	\$ 48,881,924

13 **03-8173 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS**  
14 **REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

15 **Program Description:** *The category includes forty-seven city courts, one*  
16 *municipal court (New Orleans), one traffic court (New Orleans), and one parish*  
17 *court (Ascension Parish).*

18 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the city and parish courts of Louisiana is to*  
19 *provide access to justice, to meet all responsibilities in a timely and expeditious*  
20 *manner, to provide equality, fairness and integrity in their proceedings, to maintain*  
21 *judicial independence and accountability, and to reach a fair and just result by*  
22 *adherence to the procedural and substantive law, thereby instilling trust and*  
23 *confidence in the public.*

24 **Goal:** To establish a more open and accessible system of justice.

25 **Objective:** To encourage all responsible public bodies and public officers to make  
26 the costs of access to the court's proceedings and records - whether measured in  
27 terms of money, time, or the procedures that must be followed - reasonable, fair,  
28 and affordable. **General Performance Information:**

29		2014	2015	2016
30	Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief			
31	judges indicating actions taken in			
32	FY 2015-2016 to assist pro se litigants	100%	96.2%	96.2%

33 **Goal:** To meet all responsibilities to everyone affected by the court and its  
34 activities in a timely and expeditious manner.

35 **Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.

36 **General Performance Information:**

37		2014	2015	2016
38	Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief			
39	judges indicating that their courts had			
40	taken steps within FY 2015-2016 to reduce			
41	delays and improve the timeliness of case			
42	processing	84.6%	88.5%	92.3%

43 **Goal:** To maintain judicial independence, while observing the principle of comity  
44 in its governmental relations and accountability to the public.

45 **Objective:** To inform the community of the court's structure and function.

46 **General Performance Information:**

47		2014	2015	2016
48	Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief			
49	judges indicating that their courts			
50	regularly provided public education and			
51	public outreach services in FY 2015-			
52	2016	92.3%	92.3%	88.5%

**Objective:** To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court operations as necessary.

**General Performance Information:**

	2014	2015	2016
Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating actions taken in FY 2015-2016 to improve employee training and development	94.2%	98.1%	96.2%
Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating actions taken in FY 2015-2016 to install or implement technologies	92.3%	96.2%	90.4%

Payable out of the State General Fund:

01	Salaries of sixty (60) City Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875	\$ 2,757,560
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02	Salaries of four (4) Municipal, four (4) Traffic and one (1) Parish Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:2492, 13:2501.1, and 13:2563.5, respectively	\$ 444,777
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TOTAL OTHER COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE	\$ 3,202,337
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**03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

Payable out of the State General Fund:

01	Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective Care Monitoring Program	\$ 614,938
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**Program Description:** The program tracks and maintains child abuse and neglect cases in the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court. It also provides assistance in support of the Families in Need of Services Program.

02	Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Reporters	\$ 88,244
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03	For the expenses of the Judges' Assistance Program	\$ 63,238
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**Program Description:** The Judges' Assistance Program provides counseling and other assistance to judges with substance abuse problems.

TOTAL OTHER COURTS NOT REQUIRED BY STATUTE	\$ 766,420
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**03-8175 NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES**

Payable out of the State General Fund:

01	Legal representation of children in child protection cases	\$ 2,070,853
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**Program Description:** As recommended by the Task Force on Legal representation in Child Protection Cases and at the request of the Division of Administration, in order to advance the administration of justice, the Supreme Court administers funding to provide qualified legal representation for children in child protection cases as required to fulfill the state's statutory responsibility.

TOTAL NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES	\$ 2,070,853
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1       Section 2. The appropriations, and the allocations of such appropriations, from the  
2       State General Fund (Direct) contained in Section 1 of this Act shall be reduced by a total  
3       amount of Sixteen Million Two Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Fifty and  
4       No/100 (\$16,229,650.00) Dollars, pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary  
5       Control Board or as approved by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

6       Section 3.A. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or her duly authorized and  
7       appointed agent, shall warrant the state treasurer for the allocations herein provided, or  
8       for so much thereof as may be necessary. The aforesaid warrant shall be paid out of the  
9       state general fund, and the state treasurer shall pay said warrant by preference over all  
10      other warrants, except warrants for the salaries of constitutional officers of the state and  
11      warrants for expenses of the legislature, which shall be concurrent with the warrant  
12      provided by this Act.

13      B. The funds drawn as provided herein shall be deposited in the name of the  
14      judiciary in an approved bank that has been selected by the Supreme Court and is located  
15      in the state.

16      C. Any funds herein allocated to the judiciary, any portion of the funds previously  
17      appropriated to the judiciary, other revenue of the judiciary or its agencies, and interest  
18      earnings are hereby appropriated and may be used to defray the expenses of the  
19      judiciary; however, all funds remaining unexpended or unencumbered shall be returnable  
20      to the state general fund on or before September 1, 2018.

21      D. For Fiscal Year 2017-2018, any surpluses occurring in the appropriations made  
22      in this Act may be transferred from one agency or line-item to another during the fiscal  
23      year in accordance with the rules of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or as  
24      approved by the Supreme Court.

25      E. The adjustment to be made in the salaries of judicial employees and the number  
26      of authorized positions of the judiciary shall be as decided by the judicial agency  
27      affected, subject to the approval of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board or as approved  
28      by the Supreme Court.

29      F. The program descriptions, general performance information and indicators,  
30      objectives, goals, and mission statements contained in this Act are not part of the law and  
31      are not enacted into law by virtue of their inclusion in this Act. The missions, goals, and

objectives contained in the Act are derived from performance standards established by Section 10 of Part G General Administrative Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

G. The inclusion in this Act of staff salaries and benefits for lower court or other judicial branch agency employees shall not be deemed to create or impose any obligation upon the State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office relative to the administration of pay, retirement or other benefits to any such employees. Accordingly, the State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, and the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office are not to be considered the "employer" or "employing agency" of lower court or other judicial agency employees whose staff salaries and other benefits are included in this Act.

Section 4. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

#### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

In accordance with R.S. 39:51(D), the following represents a comparative statement for each Court and program. The operating budget for FY 2016-2017 is compared to the appropriations for FY 2017-2018 as contained in the original bill.

Operating Budget	Appropriation	
	Request	
<u>Courts and Programs</u>	<u>FY 2016-2017</u>	<u>FY 2017-2018</u>
Supreme Court		
Total Supreme Court	\$ 63,673,627	\$ 74,680,658
Courts of Appeal		
Total Courts of Appeal	\$ 45,101,587	\$ 47,551,252
District Courts		
Total District Courts	\$ 46,311,638	\$ 48,881,924
Other Courts		
Total Other Courts	\$ 3,132,025	\$ 3,202,337

Other Programs

Total Other Programs	\$ 634,064	\$ 766,420
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Non-Judicial State Expenses

Total State Expenses	<u>\$ 2,070,853</u>	<u>\$ 2,070,853</u>
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Total State General Fund

and Interagency Transfer

All Line Items	<u>\$160,923,794</u>	<u>\$ 177,153,444</u>
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Total Statutory Dedications	<u>\$ 10,407,485</u>	<u>\$ 10,240,925</u>
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Total Funding	<u>\$171,331,279</u>	<u>\$ 187,394,369</u>
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_