

Senate Bill 443, as adopted by the Senate, provides the roadmap to funding Virginia's judgeships

(SB 443 accurately reflects the workload study conducted by the National Center for State Courts, NCSC)

Summary	Current Judges		NCSC Recommendations	(As of July 1, 2014)			Judges to be appointed during the 2014 Session (SB 30)	
	Authorized	Vacancies		Authorized v. Funded Judges		SB 443		
				Filled	Net Change			Funded-SB 30
Circuit	158	(24)	134	171	171	(16)	155	21
GD	127	(15)	112	124	124	(3)	121	9
J&DR	117	(4)	113	134	134	(9)	125	12
TOTAL	402	(43)	359	429	429	(28)	401	42

There are currently 402 authorized judgeships; 359 are filled, leaving 43 vacancies (42 to be filled during 2014 Session per SB 30).

SB 443, as adopted by the Senate, provides for 429 authorized judgeships -- exactly as recommended by NCSC.

Net increase of 27 = Circuit: +13; General District: -3; Juvenile and Domestic Relations: +17

The budget, as introduced, provides sufficient funding to fill 402 judgeships (by removing the judicial reversion clearing account).

If all 429 judgeships authorized in SB 443 were filled, the additional cost would be \$7,323,777 GF each year.

The Senate budget sets the number of funded judges at 401 (as of July 1, 2014). The reduction from 402 to 401 funded judges is due to the deferral of the appointment of one authorized judgeship in the 11th General District Court until July 1, 2015.

During FY 2015, certain changes occur, reducing the number of filled judges by a net change of -1, to 400 (as of July 1, 2015).

One vacancy in 2nd Circuit, as of December 31, 2014, expected to be filled as of July 1, 2015.

Newly-authorized judge in the 11th General District Court expected to be filled by the 2015 General Assembly.

One judge in 13th General District Court expected to be appointed to 13th Circuit vacancy as of July 31, 2014 (abolished)

One judge in 13th JD&R District Court expected to retire as of December 31, 2014 (abolished)

As of July 1, 2014, the Senate budget funds 394 of the 429 judgeships authorized in SB 443, based on the NCSC report, plus seven sitting judges in positions which will be eliminated upon the retirement of the incumbent, for a total of 401 funded judges. These seven sitting judges, in positions that will be eliminated upon their retirement, but who will continue to serve until they retire, are:

- 21st Circuit (Martinsville)
- 3rd General District (Portsmouth)
- 5th General District (Suffolk)
- 13th General District (Richmond). One of the judges on the 13th GD Court is expected to be appointed to the 13th Circuit Court to replace Judge Spencer, who is retiring July 31, 2014.
- 25th General District (Staunton)
- 19th J&DR (Fairfax)
- 13th J&DR (Richmond), retiring as of December 31, 2014

Circuit Court Judgeships									
	Authorized	Current Vacancies	Filled	NCSC Recommends	SB 443	Authorized v. Funded Judges	Net Change	Funded	Comments
1	5	1	4	5	5		(1)	4	Defer additional judge at this time (Chesapeake)
2	10	1	9	9	9			9	NCSC: Va Beach needed 8.6; one judge retiring 12/31/14
3	5	2	3	4	4			4	
4	9	3	6	8	8			8	
5	3	1	2	3	3			3	
6	2	2	2	3	3			3	
7	5	1	4	6	6		(1)	5	Go from four currently to five (Newport News)
8	4	1	3	3	3			3	
9	4	1	3	4	4			4	
10	3		3	4	4			4	
11	3	1	2	3	3		(1)	2	Defer additional judge at this time (Petersburg ...)
12	5	2	3	6	6		(1)	5	Go from three currently filled to five (Chesterfield)
13*	8	2	6	8	8			8	
14	5		5	5	5			5	
15	9	1	8	11	11		(2)	9	Go from 8 currently filled to 9 (Hanover ... Stafford ...)
16	5	1	4	6	6		(1)	5	Go from four currently filled to five (Goochland, Louisa ...)
17	4	1	3	3	3			3	
18	3		3	4	4		(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Alexandria)
19	15	2	13	15	15		(1)	14	Go from 13 currently filled to 14 (Fairfax County)
20	4	1	3	5	5		(1)	4	Go from three currently filled to four (Loudoun, Fauquier ...)
21	3		3	2	2		1	3	
22	4		4	5	5		(1)	4	Defer additional judge at this time (Franklin, Pittsylvania)
23	6	1	5	5	5			5	
24	5	1	4	5	5			5	
25	4		4	5	5			5	
26	5		5	8	8		(1)	7	Go from five currently filled to seven (Winchester ...)
27	5		5	7	7		(2)	5	
28	3		3	4	4		(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Bristol ...)
29	4		4	5	5			5	
30	3		3	4	4		(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Lenowisco)
31	5		5	6	6		(1)	5	Defer additional judge at this time (Prince William)
TOTAL	158	24	134	171	171	(16)		155	Go from 134 currently filled to 155 (+21)
* Judge Spencer is retiring as of July 31, 2014.									

General District Judgeships									
	Authorized	Current Vacancies	Filled	NCSC		Authorized v. Funded Judges		Comments	
				Recommendations	SB 443	Net Change	Funded		
1	4		4	4	4		4		
2	7	1	6	7	7		7		
2A	1		1	1	1		1		
3	3		3	2	2	1	3		
4	6	1	5	6	6	(1)	5	Defer additional judge at this time (Norfolk)	
5	3		3	2	2	1	3		
6	4	1	3	4	4		4		
7	4		4	4	4		4		
8	3		3	3	3		3		
9	3		3	3	3		3		
10	3		3	3	3		3		
11	2		2	3	3	(1)	2	Defer additional judge at this time (Petersburg ...)	
12	4		4	5	5		5		
13	8	1	7	6	6	1	7		
14	4		4	5	5	(1)	4	Defer additional judge at this time (Henrico)	
15*	6	2	4	8	8	(2)	6	Funding goes from 4 to 6 (Hanover ... Stafford ...)*	
16	4		4	4	4		4		
17	4	1	3	3	3		3		
18	2		2	2	2		2		
19	11	1	10	11	11	(1)	10	Defer additional judge at this time (Fairfax County)	
20	4		4	4	4		4		
21	2	1	1	1	1		1		
22	2	1	1	2	2		2		
23	5	1	4	4	4		4		
24	4	1	3	3	3		3		
25	5	1	4	3	3	1	4		
26	4		4	5	5		5		
27	5	1	4	5	5	(1)	4	Defer additional judge at this time (Radford ...)	
28	2		2	2	2		2		
29**	3	1	2	2	2		2		
30	2		2	2	2		2		
31	4	1	3	5	5		5		
TOTAL	128	16	112	124	124	(3)	121	Go from 112 currently filled to 121 (+19)***	
* In the 15th District, the number of authorized positions drops from 8 to 7, but one position will continue to be filled by a substitute (Judge Wilkins) for another year.									
** In the 29th District, SB 443 removes a position that was authorized but never funded.									
*** SB 30, as adopted by the Senate, postpones funding for one newly-authorized judgeship in the 11th District, until FY 2016.									

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Judgeships									
	Authorized	Current		NCSC	Authorized v. Funded Judges		Funded	Comments	
		Vacancies	Filled		SB 443	Net Change			
1	3		3	4	4	(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Chesapeake)	
2	7	1	6	7	7	(1)	6	Defer additional judge at this time (Virginia Beach)	
2A	1		1	1	1		1		
3	3		3	3	3		3		
4	5		5	5	5		5		
5	2		2	2	2		2		
6	2		2	2	2		2		
7	4		4	4	4		4		
8	3		3	3	3		3		
9	3		3	4	4	(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Williamsburg ...)	
10	3		3	4	4	(1)	3	Defer additional judge at this time (Farmville ...)	
11	2		2	3	3	(1)	2	Defer additional judge at this time (Petersburg ...)	
12	5		5	6	6		6		
13	5		5	4	4		5	Judge Buis retires 12/31/14	
14	5		5	5	5		5		
15	7		7	10	10	(2)	8	Go from seven currently filled to eight (Fredericksburg ...)	
16	4		4	6	6		6		
17	2		2	2	2		2		
18	2		2	2	2		2		
19	8		8	7	7	1	8		
20	3		3	3	3		3		
21	2		2	2	2		2		
22	3		3	4	4		4		
23	4	1	3	5	5	(1)	4	Go from three currently filled to four (Roanoke)	
24	5		5	6	6		6		
25	4	1	3	5	5	(1)	4	Go from three currently filled to four (Staunton ...)	
26	5		5	7	7	(2)	5		
27	4		4	5	5		5		
28	2		2	3	3		3		
29	2		2	3	3		3		
30	2		2	2	2		2		
31	5	1	4	5	5		5		
TOTAL	117	4	113	134	134	(9)	125	Go from 113 currently filled to 125 (+12)	