

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 616

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENRY AND BARRAS AND SENATORS ALARIO AND LAFLEUR

APPROPRIATIONS: Appropriates funds for the expenses of the judiciary for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

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-Six Million Seven Hundred Thirteen
7 Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two No/100 (\$186,713,592.00) Dollars, or so much thereof
8 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 over*
14 *all lower courts. It may establish procedural and administrative rules not in conflict*
15 *with law and may assign a sitting or retired judge to any court. The Supreme Court has*
16 *sole authority to provide by rule for appointments of attorneys as temporary or ad hoc*
17 *judges. It considers applications for writs to review individual cases, and has criminal*
18 *and other appellate jurisdiction. The Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction*
19 *of disciplinary proceedings against lawyers, recommendations of the Judiciary*
20 *Commission of Louisiana for the discipline of judges, and fact questions affecting its*
21 *appellate jurisdiction. It has inherent authority to regulate the legal profession and to*
22 *promulgate and update the Code of Judicial Conduct. The court also provides judicial*
23 *training through the Judicial College and works to improve the administration of*
24 *justice.*

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

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

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

9 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
10 <i>Total Filings</i>	3,017	2,716	2,365
11 <i>Total Appeals Filed</i>	18	12	6
12 <i>Total Writs Filed</i>	2,790	2,496	2,172
13 <i>Total Dispositions Rendered</i>	2,500	2,592	2,486

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

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

17 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
18 <i>Percentage of noncriminal case</i>			
19 <i>applications acted on within Supreme</i>			
20 <i>Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	94.3%	91.8%	97.1%
21 <i>Percentage of criminal case applications</i>			
22 <i>acted on within Supreme Court</i>			
23 <i>standard of 120 days of filing</i>	37%	30.7%	36.1%
24 <i>Percentage of pro se post conviction</i>			
25 <i>applications acted on within Supreme</i>			
26 <i>Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	4.8%	2.1%	3%
27 <i>Percentage of bar disciplinary filings</i>			
28 <i>acted upon within Supreme Court</i>			
29 <i>standard of 120 days of filing</i>	95.2%	95.2%	97%
30 <i>Percentage of opinions rendered within</i>			
31 <i>Supreme Court standard of 84 days</i>			
32 <i>from argument</i>	83.2%	81.5%	75.8%

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

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

36 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
37 <i>Percentage of written opinions available</i>			
38 <i>to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

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

41 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
42 <i>Number of outreach programs</i>	78	58	100
43 <i>Number of media releases on court decisions</i>	73	64	66
44 <i>Number of media releases on other matters</i>	24	25	17
45 <i>Number of recipients of releases on</i>			
46 <i>court decisions</i>	1,760	1,485	1,632
47 <i>Number of recipients of releases on other</i>			
48 <i>matters</i>	4,694	3,633	4,700

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

52 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
53 <i>Average number of hours acquired</i>			
54 <i>through continuing legal education</i>			
55 <i>per judge</i>	36.36	33.59	34.25
56 <i>Number of complaints filed against</i>			
57 <i>judges and justices of the peace</i>	496	495	529
58 <i>Number of complaints against judges</i>			
59 <i>and justices of the peace resolved or</i>			
60 <i>disposed of in the calendar year</i>	526	477	601

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

3 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
4 <i>Average number of hours acquired through</i>			
5 <i>continuing legal education per lawyer</i>	15.46	14.92	15.12
6 <i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers</i>	3,038	3,040	2,950
8 <i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers</i>			
9 <i>resolved or disposed of in calendar year</i>	3,319	3,140	3,046

10 Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct):

11 01 Salaries of one (1) Chief Justice and six (6)
12 Associate Justices of the Supreme Court,
13 as provided by R.S. 13:102 \$ 1,100,726

14 02 Salaries and other expenses of the
15 Supreme Court Proper and salary of
16 the Crier of the Supreme Court \$ 10,645,162

17 03 Expenses of Judicial Administrator's
18 Office and of the Judiciary Commission
19 provided for in Article V, Section
20 25 of the Constitution of Louisiana and
21 under the provisions of R.S. 13:32 et seq.

22 A. Expenses of Judicial Administrator's Office \$ 5,220,562

23 **Program Description:** *The Judicial Administrator's Office assists the Supreme Court in the*
24 *administration of the state court system. It staffs the Judicial Council and the Judiciary Commission of*
25 *Louisiana. Through the Judicial Council, it performs studies and makes recommendations for the creation*
26 *of new judgeships and for improving the administration of justice. The Judicial Administrator's Office*
27 *provides payroll and other fiscal services to the Judiciary, including the administration of a judicial*
28 *retirement system; support for the Supreme Court and Appellate Court human resource system;*
29 *technological services to courts; and, manages the Trial Court Case Management Information System.*
30 *The Judicial Administrator's Office also manages the ad hoc judgeship system, monitors cases under*
31 *advisement, provides outreach services to state and local courts, staffs the Committee on Judicial Ethics,*
32 *and performs numerous legal services for the Supreme Court and the Judiciary.*

33 B. Expenses of Judiciary Commission \$ 2,185,884

34 **Program Description:** *The Judiciary Commission of Louisiana is a constitutional body established under*
35 *Article V, Section 25 of the Constitution of 1974 to accept, screen, investigate, and prosecute complaints*
36 *of judicial misconduct. As part of its authority, it may recommend to the Supreme Court the censure,*
37 *suspension, removal from office, or involuntary retirement of any judge for ethical misconduct.*

38 C. Court Reporters; Statistical Reporting Systems \$ 414,690

39 D. Dues to National Center for State Courts \$ 156,352

40 04 Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board,
41 as per Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XIX \$ 3,000

42 05 Compensation and expenses of retired
43 judges assigned under Article V,
44 Section 5(A) of the Constitution of
45 Louisiana, be it more or less estimated at \$ 1,706,374

1	06	Law Library of Louisiana for salaries,	
2		services, supplies, maintenance, repairs,	
3		and equipment	\$ 2,054,682
4	Program Description: <i>The Law Library of Louisiana serves the legal information needs of the state</i>		
5	<i>judiciary, and is open to members of the bar and public.</i>		
6	07	Salaries and expenses of transferred	
7		judges assigned under Article V,	
8		Section 5(A) of the Constitution,	
9		be it more or less estimated as	\$ 180,323
10	08	Retirement pay for services rendered by	
11		justices and judges of all courts, as	
12		provided by R.S. 11:1358 and	
13		R.S. 13:103	\$ 1,365,669
14	09	Pensions for widows of justices and	
15		judges of all courts, as provided by	
16		R.S. 11:1371 and R.S. 11:1381, be it	
17		more or less estimated at	\$ 1,469,984
18	10	Judicial College	\$ 288,947
19	Program Description: <i>The Judicial College was established by order of the Supreme Court in 1976 to</i>		
20	<i>provide continuing legal education to Louisiana judges.</i>		
21	11	State contribution to judicial	
22		retirement provided for in Article V,	
23		Section 23 of the Constitution and	
24		R.S. 11:551 et seq., be it more or	
25		less estimated at	\$ 18,569,674
26	12	Civil commitment matters as	
27		required by R.S. 28:54	\$ 259,462
28	13	Paul M. Hebert Law Center for the expenses	
29		of storage of appellate court records	\$ 60,000
30	14	Funding for statewide operations of the	
31		Louisiana Protective Order Registry	
32		(R.S. 46:2136.2) under the Case	
33		Management Information System	\$ 1,434,013
34	15	Information Technology	\$ 1,116,030
35	16	Payable out of the State General Fund for the	
36		expenses associated with the operation of the	
37		Families in Need of Services Program (FINS)	\$ 2,503,181
38	Program Description: <i>The mission of the FINS Assistance Program is to assist local FINS processes by</i>		
39	<i>developing and implementing a needs-based allocation formula; developing, implementing, and mandating</i>		
40	<i>the use of a uniform data system for tracking, managing, and reporting FINS informal cases; developing</i>		
41	<i>and mandating the use of programmatic standards; developing, implementing, and reporting performance</i>		
42	<i>indicators and measures; requiring and monitoring periodic fiscal reports and financial accountability;</i>		
43	<i>and, generally supervising and assisting local FINS processes in other ways.</i>		

1 TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND
2 THROUGH INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS \$ 9,392,850

3 TOTAL SUPREME COURT \$ 86,189,975

4 **03-8171 COURTS OF APPEAL**

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

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

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

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

19 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
20 <i>Total appeals filed</i>	2,382	2,050	2,053
21 <i>Total writs filed</i>	4,973	4,325	4,048
22 <i>Total dispositions rendered</i>	6,432	5,741	5,019

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

25 **Objective:** To resolve cases expeditiously.

26 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
27 <i>Average number of days from lodging of the</i>			
28 <i>appeal to argument:</i>			
29 <i>Time Standard = no more than 175 days.</i>			
30 <i>Criminal cases</i>	179	151	143
31 <i>Civil Cases</i>	160	149	147
32 <i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	165	149	146

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

	2013	2014	2015
36 <i>Time Standard = no more than 70 days.</i>			
37 <i>Criminal cases</i>	38	38	43
38 <i>Civil cases</i>	44	44	43
39 <i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	42	43	43

40 **Goal:** To preserve public trust.

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

42 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
43 <i>Percentage of written opinions available</i>			
44 <i>to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

46 Payable out of the State General Fund:

47 01 Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges
48 and forty-eight (48) Judges of
49 the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311 \$ 7,739,935

50 02 Salaries and expenses of operation and
51 maintenance of the Court of Appeal,

1		First Circuit	\$ 10,247,908
2	03	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
3		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
4		Second Circuit	\$ 5,725,336
5	04	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
6		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
7		Third Circuit	\$ 8,778,318
8	05	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
9		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
10		Fourth Circuit	\$ 8,150,170
11	06	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
12		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
13		Fifth Circuit	<u>\$ 5,947,429</u>
14	TOTAL COURTS OF APPEAL		<u>\$ 46,589,096</u>
15	03-8172 DISTRICT COURTS		

16 **Program Description:** *There are forty-one district courts in Louisiana that have general*
 17 *jurisdiction over all matters within their territorial limits, except in those judicial districts*
 18 *(the 1st, the 19th, and the 24th Judicial Districts) where family and juvenile courts have*
 19 *exclusive jurisdiction over certain types of cases and except in Orleans Parish where*
 20 *there are separate courts exercising civil, criminal, and juvenile jurisdictions,*
 21 *respectively. In certain cases, the forty-one general jurisdiction courts have concurrent*
 22 *jurisdiction with justices of the peace and parish courts. The district courts generally*
 23 *have appellate jurisdiction of criminal cases tried by city, parish, municipal, traffic, and*
 24 *mayors' courts, except in certain cases. The district courts also have appellate*
 25 *jurisdiction over justices of the peace in parishes where no parish courts exist. The Civil*
 26 *District Court of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction of all civil cases in that parish. The*
 27 *Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction over all criminal cases in the*
 28 *parish. It also has general supervisory jurisdiction over the municipal and traffic courts*
 29 *in Orleans Parish. The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish has exclusive*
 30 *jurisdiction of many domestic cases in the parish. The four juvenile courts located in*
 31 *Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, and Orleans parishes have exclusive jurisdiction*
 32 *of juvenile cases in their respective parishes.*

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

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

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

41 **General Performance Information:**

42		2013	2014	2015
43	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
44	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve compliance with</i>			
45	<i>the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</i>	89.6%	97.9%	93.8%

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

50 **General Performance Information:**

51		2013	2014	2015
52	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
53	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to assist self-represented</i>			
54	<i>litigants</i>	95.8%	97.9%	97.9%

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

1	Objective: To encourage timely case management and processing.			
2	General Performance Information:			
3		2013	2014	2015
4	<i>Number of parishes reporting criminal disposition</i>			
5	<i>data to CMIS</i>	63	64	64
6	<i>Percentage of parishes reporting criminal disposition</i>			
7	<i>data to CMIS</i>	99%	100%	100%
8	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges</i>			
9	<i>indicating that their courts had taken steps within</i>			
10	<i>FY 2014-2015 to reduce delays and improve the</i>			
11	<i>timeliness of case processing</i>	91.7%	91.7%	97.9%
12	Objective: To enhance jury service.			
13	General Performance Information:			
14		2013	2014	2015
15	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
16	<i>that their court had taken steps within FY 2014-2015</i>			
17	<i>to make jury service more convenient or effective</i>	97.7%	93%	100%
18	Goal: To provide due process and equal protection of the law to all who have business			
19	before the court; and to demonstrate integrity in all procedures and decisions.			
20	Objective: To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court operations			
21	as necessary.			
22	General Performance Information:			
23		2013	2014	2015
24	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
25	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve employee</i>			
26	<i>training and development</i>	89.6%	95.8%	87.5%
27	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
28	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or implement</i>			
29	<i>technologies</i>	91.7%	95.8%	100%
30	Goal: To maintain judicial independence, while observing the principle of comity in			
31	its governmental relations and accountability to the public.			
32	Objective: To inform the community of the court's structure and function.			
33	General Performance Information:			
34		2013	2014	2015
35	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
36	<i>that their courts regularly provided public education</i>			
37	<i>and public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>	93.8%	89.6%	97.9%
38	Payable out of the State General Fund:			
39	01 Salaries of one hundred ninety-one			
40	(191) District Judges as provided			
41	by R.S. 13:691			\$ 26,590,676
42	02 Office and travel expenses of District			
43	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698 and			
44	R.S. 13:694, respectively			\$ 1,285,250
45	03 Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of			
46	Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,			
47	as provided by R.S. 13:691			\$ 1,949,055
48	04 Expenses of Judges of Civil District			
49	Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries			
50	of stenographers, clerks, law books,			
51	stationery, telephone, and like expenses			
52	as provided by R.S. 13:698			\$ 80,500

1	05	Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters	
2		of the Twentieth Judicial District Court,	
3		including retirement contributions, as	
4		provided by R.S. 13:966.1	\$ 116,251
5	06	Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans	
6		Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)	\$ 10,000
7	07	State share of Group, Workers'	
8		Compensation, General Liability,	
9		and Property Insurance Premiums	
10		as provided by R.S.42:851	\$ 7,306,821
11	08	Salaries of two (2) commissioners of	
12		the Nineteenth Judicial District and	
13		one (1) commissioner of the Fifteenth	
14		Judicial District as provided by	
15		R.S. 13:712 and R.S. 13:715,	
16		respectively	\$ 552,719
17	09	Office expenses for the Judicial	
18		Expense Fund of the Nineteenth Judicial	
19		District Court as provided by	
20		R.S. 13:711-713	\$ 480,412
21	10	Office expenses for the Judicial	
22		Expense Fund of the Fifteenth	
23		Judicial District Court as provided	
24		by R.S. 13:714-716	\$ 315,452
25	11	Law Clerk, Twentieth Judicial District	
26		Court as provided by Act 747 of 1977	\$ 50,556
27	12	For the expenses of the Judicial Expense	
28		Fund, Tenth Judicial District Court as	
29		provided by Act 57 of 2006	\$ 35,000
30		SUBTOTAL	\$ <u>38,772,692</u>
31	13	Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans	
32		Program Description: <i>The Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans has exclusive jurisdiction</i>	
33		<i>of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of</i>	
34		<i>Orleans, if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court. The court, through its magistrate and</i>	
35		<i>with assistance from its commissioners, has the power of committing magistrates in all felony charges and</i>	
36		<i>the power to hold preliminary examinations, with authority to bail or discharge, or to hold for trial, in all</i>	
37		<i>cases before the court. The court has appellate jurisdiction of all cases tried before the Municipal Court</i>	
38		<i>of New Orleans and the Traffic Court of New Orleans and has general supervisory jurisdiction over these</i>	
39		<i>courts.</i>	
40	A.	Salaries of thirteen (13) District Judges of	
41		Criminal Court, Orleans Parish as provided	
42		by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,809,837
43	B.	Office expenses of Judges of Criminal Court,	
44		Orleans Parish as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$ 74,750
45	C.	State's share of group insurance for the personnel	
46		of Criminal Court as provided by R.S. 42:851	\$ 779,271

1	D. Salaries of thirteen (13) minute clerks as provided	
2	by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 284,627
3	E. Salaries of twenty-six (26) court reporters as	
4	provided by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 449,821
5	F. Salaries of four (4) commissioners of Criminal	
6	Court, Orleans Parish, including related benefits	
7	as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 493,022
8	G. Office and travel expenses of commissioners as	
9	provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 10,600
10	H. Salaries of four (4) minute clerks, one for each	
11	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 73,003
12	I. Salaries of four (4) court reporters, one for each	
13	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 55,034
14	J. Salaries of Judicial Administrator, and assistants,	
15	including related benefits	\$ 1,000,721
16	K. Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks	\$ 729,085
17	L. Salaries of four (4) secretaries	\$ 211,288
18	M. Sanity Commissions	\$ 200,000
19	N. Board of Jury Commissioners	<u>\$ 430,381</u>
20	SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 6,601,440</u>
21	14 Juvenile and Family Court Judges	
22	A. Salaries of fourteen (14) Juvenile Court	
23	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,949,055
24	B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court Judges	
25	as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 556,873
26	C. Office and travel expenses of Juvenile and Family	
27	Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698	
28	and R.S. 13:694, respectively	<u>\$ 103,500</u>
29	SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 2,609,428</u>
30	TOTAL DISTRICT COURTS	<u>\$ 47,983,560</u>
31	03-8173 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS REQUIRED	
32	BY STATUTE	
33	Program Description: <i>The category includes forty-seven city courts, one municipal</i>	
34	<i>court (New Orleans), one traffic court (New Orleans), and one parish court (Ascension</i>	
35	<i>Parish).</i>	
36	Mission Statement: <i>The mission of the city and parish courts of Louisiana is to provide</i>	
37	<i>access to justice, to meet all responsibilities in a timely and expeditious manner, to</i>	
38	<i>provide equality, fairness and integrity in their proceedings, to maintain judicial</i>	
39	<i>independence and accountability, and to reach a fair and just result by adherence to the</i>	
40	<i>procedural and substantive law, thereby instilling trust and confidence in the public.</i>	

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

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

5 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
6			
7	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>		
8	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to assist pro</i>		
9	<i>se litigants</i>		
	100%	100%	96.2%

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

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

13 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
14			
15	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges</i>		
16	<i>indicating that their courts had taken steps within</i>		
17	<i>FY 2014-2015 to reduce delays and improve the</i>		
18	<i>timeliness of case processing</i>		
	84.3%	84.6%	88.5%

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

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

22 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
23			
24	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>		
25	<i>that their courts regularly provided public education and</i>		
26	<i>public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>		
	92.2%	92.3%	92.3%

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

29 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
30			
31	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>		
32	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve</i>		
33	<i>employee training and development</i>		
34	96.1%	94.2%	98.1%
35	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>		
36	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or</i>		
	<i>implement technologies</i>		
	86.3%	92.3%	96.2%

37 Payable out of the State General Fund:

38	01	Salaries of sixty (60) City Court		
39		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875		\$ 2,697,015

40	02	Salaries of four (4) Municipal, four (4)		
41		Traffic and one (1) Parish Court		
42		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:2492,		
43		13:2501.1, and 13:2563.5, respectively		<u>\$ 435,011</u>

44	TOTAL OTHER COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE			<u>\$ 3,132,026</u>
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45 **03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT**
46 **REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

47 Payable out of the State General Fund:

48	01	Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective		
49		Care Monitoring Program		\$ 596,209

50 **Program Description:** *The program tracks and maintains child abuse and neglect cases in the Orleans*
51 *Parish Juvenile Court. It also provides assistance in support of the Families in Need of Services Program.*

1 however, all funds remaining unexpended or unencumbered shall be returnable to the state
2 general fund on or before September 1, 2017.

3 D. For Fiscal Year 2016-2017, any surpluses occurring in the appropriations made in this
4 Act may be transferred from one agency or line-item to another during the fiscal year in
5 accordance with the rules of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or as approved by the
6 Supreme Court.

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

11 F. The program descriptions, general performance information and indicators, objectives,
12 goals, and mission statements contained in this Act are not part of the law and are not enacted
13 into law by virtue of their inclusion in this Act. The missions, goals, and objectives contained
14 in the Act are derived from performance standards established by Section 10 of Part G
15 General Administrative Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

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

25 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016; if vetoed by the governor
26 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016,
27 or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 616 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Henry

Abstract: Appropriates funds for FY 2016-2017 for expenses of the La. Judiciary, including the supreme court, courts of appeal, district courts, Criminal Court of Orleans Parish, juvenile and family courts, and other courts.

Appropriates funds for FY 2016-2017 for the ordinary operating expenses of the judicial branch of government with total funding of \$163,655,352 from the following sources: \$143,855,017 out of the State General Fund (Direct); \$9,392,850 through interagency transfers from the Dept. of Children and Family Services; and, \$10,407,485 from statutory dedications out of the Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund and the Trial Court Case Management Fund.

Funding for the ordinary operating expenses of the judicial branch of government is provided as follows:

(1)	Louisiana Supreme Court	\$ 86,189,975
(2)	Courts of Appeal	46,589,096
(3)	District Courts	38,772,692
(4)	Criminal Court, Parish of Orleans	6,601,440
(5)	Juvenile and Family Courts	2,609,428
(6)	Other Courts (Required by Statute)	3,132,026
(7)	Other Courts (Not Required by Statute)	748,082
(8)	Non-Judicial State Expenses	<u>2,070,853</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$186,713,592</u>

Provides that the appropriations out of the State General Fund (Direct) contained in this Act shall be reduced by a total amount of \$23,058,240 pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board or as approved by the La. Supreme Court. Prohibits such adopted plan from impacting the funding for legal representation of children in child protection cases.

Effective July 1, 2016.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill:

1. Provide for a change in means of financing to decrease State General Fund (Direct) and increase Interagency Transfers from the Dept. of Children and Family Services by \$9,392,850 for drug court maintenance and enhancement and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

2. Add requirement that appropriations contained in this Act be reduced by a total amount of \$23,058,240 pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board or as approved by the La. Supreme Court.