

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 781

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

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; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. A. The sum of Two Hundred Thirteen Million Seven Hundred Forty-Five  
8 Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Nine (\$213,745,869) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be  
9 necessary, is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of the judiciary, including the  
10 Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, the District Courts, the Criminal District Court of Orleans  
11 Parish, and of the other courts.

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

13 **03-8170 SUPREME COURT**

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

| 24 |    |                                       | <u>FY 24 EOB</u> | <u>FY 25 REC</u> |
|----|----|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 25 | 01 | Salaries of one (1) Chief Justice and |                  |                  |
| 26 |    | six (6) Associate Justices of the     |                  |                  |
| 27 |    | Supreme Court, as provided by         |                  |                  |
| 28 |    | R.S. 13:102                           | \$ 1,282,315     | \$ 1,381,774     |
| 29 | 02 | Salaries and other expenses of the    |                  |                  |
| 30 |    | Supreme Court Proper and salary of    |                  |                  |
| 31 |    | the Crier of the Supreme Court        | \$ 11,941,695    | \$ 12,813,962    |

1           03     Expenses of Judicial Administrator's  
 2                     Office and of the Judiciary  
 3                     Commission provided for in Article V,  
 4                     Section 25 of the Constitution of  
 5                     Louisiana and under the provisions of  
 6                     R.S. 13:32 et seq.

7           A. Expenses of Judicial  
 8                     Administrator's Office                     \$     5,799,573     \$     5,999,379

9           **Program Description:** *The Judicial Administrator's Office assists the Supreme Court in the*  
 10 *administration of the state court system. It staffs the Judicial Council and the Judiciary Commission of*  
 11 *Louisiana. Through the Judicial Council, it performs studies and makes recommendations for the creation*  
 12 *of new judgeships and for improving the administration of justice. The Judicial Administrator's Office*  
 13 *provides payroll and other fiscal services to the Judiciary, including the administration of a judicial*  
 14 *retirement system; support for the Supreme Court and Appellate Court human resource system; and*  
 15 *support for judicial branch reporting obligations. The Judicial Administrator's Office also manages the*  
 16 *ad hoc judgeship system, monitors cases under advisement, provides support for initiatives to ensure*  
 17 *access to the courts for limited English proficiency individuals; provides outreach services to state and*  
 18 *local courts, applies for and administers grants to improve judicial administration; and staffs the*  
 19 *Committee on Judicial Ethics. The Judicial Administrator's office administers several programs, including*  
 20 *the Supreme Court Drug Court / Specialty Court Office, the Louisiana Protective Order Registry, and*  
 21 *CASA and FINS through the Division of Children and Families. The Judicial Administrator's office also*  
 22 *provides staff support for the Louisiana Judicial College, and performs numerous legal services for the*  
 23 *Supreme Court and the Judiciary.*

24           B. Expenses of Judiciary Commission                     \$     2,210,912     \$     2,351,156

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

29           C. Court Reporters; Statistical  
 30                     Reporting Systems                     \$     362,299     \$     380,536

31           D. Dues to National Center for  
 32                     State Courts                     \$     186,000     \$     186,000

33           04     Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary  
 34                     Board, as per Louisiana Supreme  
 35                     Court Rule XIX                     \$     3,000     \$     3,000

36           05     Compensation and expenses of retired  
 37                     judges assigned under Article V,  
 38                     Section 5(A) of the Constitution of  
 39                     Louisiana, be it more or less  
 40                     estimated at                     \$     873,866     \$     917,559

41           06     Law Library of Louisiana for salaries,  
 42                     services, supplies, maintenance, repairs,  
 43                     and equipment                     \$     1,868,758     \$     2,010,898

44           **Program Description:** *The Law Library of Louisiana serves the legal information needs of the state*  
 45 *judiciary, and is open to members of the bar and public.*

46           07     Salaries and expenses of transferred  
 47                     judges assigned under Article V,  
 48                     Section 5(A) of the Constitution,  
 49                     be it more or less estimated as                     \$     75,000     \$     78,750

50           08     Retirement pay for services rendered by  
 51                     justices and judges of all courts, as  
 52                     provided by R.S. 11:1358                     \$     527,000     \$     548,080

|    |    |                                                                                                                    |    |            |               |
|----|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------|---------------|
| 1  | 09 | Pensions for widows of justices and                                                                                |    |            |               |
| 2  |    | judges of all courts, as provided by                                                                               |    |            |               |
| 3  |    | R.S. 11:1371 and R.S. 11:1381, be it                                                                               |    |            |               |
| 4  |    | more or less estimated at                                                                                          | \$ | 715,000    | \$ 730,494    |
| 5  | 10 | Judicial College                                                                                                   | \$ | 266,227    | \$ 283,830    |
| 6  |    | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judicial College was established by order of the Supreme Court in 1976 to</i>   |    |            |               |
| 7  |    | <i>provide continuing legal education to Louisiana judges.</i>                                                     |    |            |               |
| 8  | 11 | State contribution to judicial                                                                                     |    |            |               |
| 9  |    | retirement provided for in Article V,                                                                              |    |            |               |
| 10 |    | Section 23 of the Constitution and                                                                                 |    |            |               |
| 11 |    | R.S. 11:551 et seq., be it more or                                                                                 |    |            |               |
| 12 |    | less estimated at                                                                                                  | \$ | 22,166,383 | \$ 22,170,013 |
| 13 | 12 | Civil commitment matters as                                                                                        |    |            |               |
| 14 |    | required by R.S. 28:54                                                                                             | \$ | 345,335    | \$ 405,088    |
| 15 | 13 | Paul M. Hebert Law Center for                                                                                      |    |            |               |
| 16 |    | expenses of storage of appellate                                                                                   |    |            |               |
| 17 |    | court records                                                                                                      | \$ | 60,000     | \$ 60,000     |
| 18 | 14 | Funding for statewide operations of the                                                                            |    |            |               |
| 19 |    | Louisiana Protective Order Registry                                                                                |    |            |               |
| 20 |    | (R.S. 46:2136.2) under the Case                                                                                    |    |            |               |
| 21 |    | Management Information System                                                                                      | \$ | 1,243,914  | \$ 1,593,127  |
| 22 | 15 | Information Technology                                                                                             | \$ | 2,053,167  | \$ 2,495,770  |
| 23 | 16 | Operational expenses of                                                                                            |    |            |               |
| 24 |    | the Families in Need of Services                                                                                   |    |            |               |
| 25 |    | Program (FINS)                                                                                                     | \$ | 2,358,111  | \$ 3,219,018  |
| 26 |    | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The mission of the FINS Assistance Program is to assist local FINS processes by</i> |    |            |               |
| 27 |    | <i>developing and implementing a needs-based allocation formula; developing, implementing, and mandating</i>       |    |            |               |
| 28 |    | <i>the use of a uniform data system for tracking, managing, and reporting FINS informal cases; developing</i>      |    |            |               |
| 29 |    | <i>and mandating the use of programmatic standards; developing, implementing, and reporting performance</i>        |    |            |               |
| 30 |    | <i>indicators and measures; requiring and monitoring periodic fiscal reports and financial accountability;</i>     |    |            |               |
| 31 |    | <i>and, generally supervising and assisting local FINS processes in other ways.</i>                                |    |            |               |
| 32 |    |                                                                                                                    |    |            |               |
| 33 | 17 | Louisiana Drug and Specialty Courts                                                                                | \$ | 15,775,458 | \$ 16,643,558 |
| 34 |    | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>Louisiana Drug and Specialty Courts, such as Drug/DWI Treatment Courts,</i>         |    |            |               |
| 35 |    | <i>authorized in 1977 by R.S. 13:5301-5304; Reentry Courts, authorized in 2010 by R.S. 13:5401; Mental</i>         |    |            |               |
| 36 |    | <i>Health Courts, authorized in 2013 by R.S. 13:5353 - 5358; Swift and Certain Program, authorized by R.S.</i>     |    |            |               |
| 37 |    | <i>13:5371; and Veterans Treatment Courts, authorized in 2014 by R.S. 13:5361 - 5368, are proven and</i>           |    |            |               |
| 38 |    | <i>effective alternatives to traditional criminal justice interventions. These programs provide integrated</i>     |    |            |               |
| 39 |    | <i>treatment for substance use and mental health disorders, including the appropriate use of sanctions and</i>     |    |            |               |
| 40 |    | <i>incentives along with case management, to place participants in need of services into appropriate</i>           |    |            |               |
| 41 |    | <i>community-based and judicially supervised rehabilitation programs. Clients are regularly tested and</i>         |    |            |               |
| 42 |    | <i>monitored for compliance with educational, employment, and treatment requirements pursuant to current</i>       |    |            |               |
| 43 |    | <i>best practices and the proven national model.</i>                                                               |    |            |               |
| 44 | 18 | Court Appointed Special Advocates                                                                                  | \$ | 7,350,304  | \$ 8,052,692  |
| 45 |    | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The purpose of the CASA Assistance Program is to promote timely placement of</i>    |    |            |               |
| 46 |    | <i>children in need of care in permanent, safe and stable homes, in accordance with the provisions of</i>          |    |            |               |
| 47 |    | <i>Children's Code articles 424-426. Services are provided through local CASA programs which recruit,</i>          |    |            |               |
| 48 |    | <i>screen, train and supervise community advocates. Upon appointment by the trial judge, qualified</i>             |    |            |               |
| 49 |    | <i>advocates serve children by providing independent factual information to the judge, advocating for the best</i> |    |            |               |
| 50 |    | <i>interest of the children, monitoring cases to which they have been assigned, and advising and assisting the</i> |    |            |               |
| 51 |    | <i>judge in the determination of the best interest of the children involved.</i>                                   |    |            |               |

1           19     Judges' supplemental compensation  
 2                     R.S. 13:10.3, be it more or less  
 3                     estimated at                                     \$     6,223,724     \$     7,785,844

4           **Program Description:** *The Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund was established by the Legislature*  
 5           *in 1985 to fund salary supplements and salary-related expenses to judges and commissioners. The funding*  
 6           *source is a non-refundable filing fee assessed on civil filings as provided in R.S. 13:10.3.*

7           20     Case Management Information System,  
 8                     Article 887(F) of the Code of Criminal  
 9                     Procedure, be it more or less  
 10                    estimated at                                     \$     4,017,201     \$     4,057,080

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

18                    TOTAL EXPENDITURES:                                     \$     87,705,242     \$     94,167,608

19           MEANS OF FINANCE:  
 20           State General Fund (Direct)                                     \$     68,071,467     \$     72,931,834  
 21           State General Fund by:  
 22                 Interagency Transfers                                     \$     9,392,850     \$     9,392,850  
 23                 Statutory Dedications:  
 24                     Judges' Supplemental Compensation  
 25                     Fund                                             \$     6,223,724     \$     7,785,844  
 26                     Trial Court Case Management  
 27                     Information Fund                                     \$     4,017,201     \$     4,057,080

28                    TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING                                     \$     87,705,242     \$     94,167,608

29           **03-8171    COURTS OF APPEAL**

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

|    |                                                                                                          | <b><u>FY 24 EOB</u></b> | <b><u>FY 25 REC</u></b> |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 36 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 37 | 01                                                                                                       |                         |                         |
| 38 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 39 | Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges<br>and forty-eight (48) Judges of<br>the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311 | \$     9,022,841        | \$     9,901,650        |
| 40 | 02                                                                                                       |                         |                         |
| 41 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 42 | Salaries and expenses of operation<br>and maintenance of the Court of<br>Appeal, First Circuit           | \$     11,279,856       | \$     11,902,319       |
| 43 | 03                                                                                                       |                         |                         |
| 44 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 45 | Salaries and expenses of operation<br>and maintenance of the Court of<br>Appeal, Second Circuit          | \$     6,378,931        | \$     6,764,817        |
| 46 | 04                                                                                                       |                         |                         |
| 47 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 48 | Salaries and expenses of operation<br>and maintenance of the Court of<br>Appeal, Third Circuit           | \$     9,691,207        | \$    10,310,148        |
| 49 | 05                                                                                                       |                         |                         |
| 50 |                                                                                                          |                         |                         |
| 51 | Salaries and expenses of operation<br>and maintenance of the Court of<br>Appeal, Fourth Circuit          | \$     9,011,897        | \$     9,694,031        |

|   |    |                                    |                      |                      |
|---|----|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 06 | Salaries and expenses of operation |                      |                      |
| 2 |    | and maintenance of the Court of    |                      |                      |
| 3 |    | Appeal, Fifth Circuit              | \$ 6,602,212         | \$ 7,257,673         |
| 4 |    | TOTAL EXPENDITURES:                | <u>\$ 51,986,944</u> | <u>\$ 55,830,638</u> |
| 5 |    | MEANS OF FINANCE:                  |                      |                      |
| 6 |    | State General Fund (Direct)        | \$ 51,986,944        | \$ 55,830,638        |
| 7 |    | TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING           | <u>\$ 51,986,944</u> | <u>\$ 55,830,638</u> |

8 **03-8172 DISTRICT COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS**  
 9 **REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

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

|    |    |                                           | <b><u>FY 24 EOB</u></b> | <b><u>FY 25 REC</u></b> |
|----|----|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 24 |    |                                           |                         |                         |
| 25 | 01 | Salaries of one hundred ninety-one        |                         |                         |
| 26 |    | (191) District Judges as provided         |                         |                         |
| 27 |    | by R.S. 13:691                            | \$ 31,159,398           | \$ 33,751,199           |
| 28 | 02 | Office and travel expenses of District    |                         |                         |
| 29 |    | Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698         |                         |                         |
| 30 |    | and R.S. 13:694, respectively             | \$ 1,285,250            | \$ 1,299,750            |
| 31 | 03 | Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of       |                         |                         |
| 32 |    | Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,     |                         |                         |
| 33 |    | as provided by R.S. 13:691                | \$ 2,273,223            | \$ 2,462,307            |
| 34 | 04 | Expenses of Judges of Civil District      |                         |                         |
| 35 |    | Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries    |                         |                         |
| 36 |    | of stenographers, clerks, law books,      |                         |                         |
| 37 |    | stationery, telephone, and like           |                         |                         |
| 38 |    | expenses as provided by R.S. 13:698       | \$ 80,500               | \$ 80,500               |
| 39 | 05 | Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters       |                         |                         |
| 40 |    | of the Twentieth Judicial District Court, |                         |                         |
| 41 |    | including retirement contributions, as    |                         |                         |
| 42 |    | provided by R.S. 13:966.1                 | \$ 114,514              | \$ 114,098              |
| 43 | 06 | Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans    |                         |                         |
| 44 |    | Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)    | \$ 10,000               | \$ 10,000               |
| 45 | 07 | State share of Group, Workers'            |                         |                         |
| 46 |    | Compensation, General Liability, and      |                         |                         |
| 47 |    | Property Insurance Premiums as            |                         |                         |
| 48 |    | provided by R.S. 42:851                   | \$ 8,161,271            | \$ 9,307,095            |

|    |    |                                                                                                                      |    |                   |                      |
|----|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | 08 | Salaries of two (2) commissioners of                                                                                 |    |                   |                      |
| 2  |    | the Nineteenth Judicial District and                                                                                 |    |                   |                      |
| 3  |    | one (1) commissioner of the Fifteenth                                                                                |    |                   |                      |
| 4  |    | Judicial District as provided by                                                                                     |    |                   |                      |
| 5  |    | R.S. 13:712 and R.S. 13:715,                                                                                         |    |                   |                      |
| 6  |    | respectively                                                                                                         | \$ | 650,843           | \$ 689,813           |
| 7  | 09 | Office expenses for the Judicial                                                                                     |    |                   |                      |
| 8  |    | Expense Fund of the Nineteenth Judicial                                                                              |    |                   |                      |
| 9  |    | District Court as provided by                                                                                        |    |                   |                      |
| 10 |    | R.S. 13:711-713                                                                                                      | \$ | 447,975           | \$ 567,875           |
| 11 | 10 | Office expenses for the Judicial                                                                                     |    |                   |                      |
| 12 |    | Expense Fund of the Fifteenth                                                                                        |    |                   |                      |
| 13 |    | Judicial District Court as provided                                                                                  |    |                   |                      |
| 14 |    | by R.S. 13:714-716                                                                                                   | \$ | 303,754           | \$ 317,343           |
| 15 | 11 | Law Clerk, Twentieth Judicial District                                                                               |    |                   |                      |
| 16 |    | Court as provided by Act 747 of 1977                                                                                 | \$ | 49,311            | \$ 49,311            |
| 17 | 12 | For the expenses of the Judicial Expense                                                                             |    |                   |                      |
| 18 |    | Fund, Tenth Judicial District Court as                                                                               |    |                   |                      |
| 19 |    | provided by Act 57 of 2006                                                                                           | \$ | 35,000            | \$ 35,000            |
| 20 |    | SUBTOTAL                                                                                                             | \$ | <u>44,571,039</u> | \$ <u>48,684,291</u> |
| 21 | 13 | Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans                                                                                   |    |                   |                      |
| 22 |    | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans has exclusive jurisdiction</i>  |    |                   |                      |
| 23 |    | <i>of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of</i>          |    |                   |                      |
| 24 |    | <i>Orleans, if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court. The court, through its magistrate and</i>  |    |                   |                      |
| 25 |    | <i>with assistance from its commissioners, has the power of committing magistrates in all felony charges and</i>     |    |                   |                      |
| 26 |    | <i>the power to hold preliminary examinations, with authority to bail or discharge, or to hold for trial, in all</i> |    |                   |                      |
| 27 |    | <i>cases before the court. The court has appellate jurisdiction of all cases tried before the Municipal and</i>      |    |                   |                      |
| 28 |    | <i>Traffic Court of New Orleans and has general supervisory jurisdiction over these courts.</i>                      |    |                   |                      |
| 29 | A. | Salaries of thirteen (13) District                                                                                   |    |                   |                      |
| 30 |    | Judges of Criminal Court, Orleans                                                                                    |    |                   |                      |
| 31 |    | Parish as provided by R.S. 13:691                                                                                    | \$ | 2,110,850         | \$ 2,286,428         |
| 32 | B. | Office expenses of Judges of                                                                                         |    |                   |                      |
| 33 |    | Criminal Court, Orleans Parish as                                                                                    |    |                   |                      |
| 34 |    | Provided by R.S. 13:698                                                                                              | \$ | 74,750            | \$ 74,750            |
| 35 | C. | State's share of group insurance                                                                                     |    |                   |                      |
| 36 |    | for personnel of Criminal Court                                                                                      |    |                   |                      |
| 37 |    | as provided by R.S. 42:851                                                                                           | \$ | 754,735           | \$ 809,410           |
| 38 | D. | Salaries of thirteen (13) minute                                                                                     |    |                   |                      |
| 39 |    | clerks as provided by R.S.                                                                                           |    |                   |                      |
| 40 |    | 13:1373.1                                                                                                            | \$ | 294,775           | \$ 284,090           |
| 41 | E. | Salaries of twenty-six (26) court                                                                                    |    |                   |                      |
| 42 |    | reporters as provided by R.S.                                                                                        |    |                   |                      |
| 43 |    | 13:1373.1                                                                                                            | \$ | 460,845           | \$ 447,504           |
| 44 | F. | Salaries of four (4) commissioners                                                                                   |    |                   |                      |
| 45 |    | of Criminal Court, Orleans Parish,                                                                                   |    |                   |                      |
| 46 |    | including related benefits as                                                                                        |    |                   |                      |
| 47 |    | provided by R.S. 13:1347                                                                                             | \$ | 567,412           | \$ 597,692           |

|    |                                                                                                                   |    |                         |                         |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | G. Office and travel expenses of                                                                                  |    |                         |                         |
| 2  | commissioners as provided by                                                                                      |    |                         |                         |
| 3  | R.S. 13:1347                                                                                                      | \$ | 10,600                  | \$ 10,600               |
| 4  | H. Salaries of four (4) minute clerks,                                                                            |    |                         |                         |
| 5  | one for each commissioner                                                                                         |    |                         |                         |
| 6  | as provided by R.S. 13:1347                                                                                       | \$ | 79,683                  | \$ 77,708               |
| 7  | I. Salaries of four (4) court reporters,                                                                          |    |                         |                         |
| 8  | one for each commissioner                                                                                         |    |                         |                         |
| 9  | as provided by R.S. 13:1347                                                                                       | \$ | 58,103                  | \$ 57,057               |
| 10 | J. Salaries of Judicial Administrator,                                                                            |    |                         |                         |
| 11 | and assistants, including                                                                                         |    |                         |                         |
| 12 | related benefits                                                                                                  | \$ | 1,052,496               | \$ 1,220,656            |
| 13 | K. Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks                                                                           | \$ | 785,166                 | \$ 773,076              |
| 14 | L. Salaries of four (4) secretaries                                                                               | \$ | 227,400                 | \$ 224,948              |
| 15 | M. Sanity Commissions                                                                                             | \$ | 58,855                  | \$ 60,179               |
| 16 | N. Board of Jury Commissioners                                                                                    | \$ | 443,769                 | \$ 463,679              |
| 17 | SUBTOTAL                                                                                                          | \$ | <u>6,979,439</u>        | \$ <u>7,387,777</u>     |
| 18 | 14 Juvenile and Family Court Judges                                                                               |    |                         |                         |
| 19 | A. Salaries of thirteen (13) Juvenile                                                                             |    |                         |                         |
| 20 | Court Judges as provided by                                                                                       |    |                         |                         |
| 21 | R.S. 13:691                                                                                                       | \$ | 2,110,850               | \$ 2,110,549            |
| 22 | B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court                                                                              |    |                         |                         |
| 23 | Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691                                                                                 | \$ | 649,492                 | \$ 703,516              |
| 24 | C. Office and travel expenses of Juvenile                                                                         |    |                         |                         |
| 25 | and Family Court Judges as                                                                                        |    |                         |                         |
| 26 | provided by R.S. 13:698 and                                                                                       |    |                         |                         |
| 27 | R.S. 13:694, respectively                                                                                         | \$ | 97,750                  | \$ 97,750               |
| 28 | SUBTOTAL                                                                                                          | \$ | <u>2,858,092</u>        | \$ <u>2,911,815</u>     |
| 29 | TOTAL EXPENDITURES (District Courts):                                                                             | \$ | <u>54,408,570</u>       | \$ <u>58,983,883</u>    |
| 30 | MEANS OF FINANCE:                                                                                                 |    |                         |                         |
| 31 | State General Fund (Direct)                                                                                       | \$ | <u>54,408,570</u>       | \$ <u>58,983,883</u>    |
| 32 | TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING                                                                                          |    |                         |                         |
| 33 | (District Courts):                                                                                                | \$ | <u>54,408,570</u>       | \$ <u>58,983,883</u>    |
| 34 | <b>03-8173 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS</b>                                                     |    |                         |                         |
| 35 | <b>REQUIRED BY STATUTE</b>                                                                                        |    |                         |                         |
| 36 | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The category includes forty-seven city courts, one municipal and traffic court</i> |    |                         |                         |
| 37 | <i>(New Orleans), and one parish court (Ascension Parish).</i>                                                    |    |                         |                         |
| 38 |                                                                                                                   |    | <b><u>FY 24 EOB</u></b> | <b><u>FY 25 REC</u></b> |
| 39 | 01 Salaries of sixty (60) City Court                                                                              |    |                         |                         |
| 40 | Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875                                                                                | \$ | 3,145,602               | \$ 3,407,236            |

|    |                                                                                                                   |                         |                         |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | 02 Salaries of seven (7) Municipal and                                                                            |                         |                         |
| 2  | Traffic and one (1) Parish Court                                                                                  |                         |                         |
| 3  | Judge as provided by R.S. 13:2492                                                                                 |                         |                         |
| 4  | and 2563.5, respectively                                                                                          | \$ 455,923              | \$ 493,846              |
| 5  | TOTAL EXPENDITURES (OTHER COURTS                                                                                  |                         |                         |
| 6  | REQUIRED BY STATUTE)                                                                                              | <u>\$ 3,601,525</u>     | <u>\$ 3,901,082</u>     |
| 7  | MEANS OF FINANCE:                                                                                                 |                         |                         |
| 8  | State General Fund (Direct)                                                                                       | \$ 3,601,525            | \$ 3,901,082            |
| 9  | TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE (OTHER                                                                                     |                         |                         |
| 10 | COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE)                                                                                       | <u>\$ 3,601,525</u>     | <u>\$ 3,901,082</u>     |
| 11 | <b>03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT</b>                                                    |                         |                         |
| 12 | <b>REQUIRED BY STATUTE</b>                                                                                        |                         |                         |
| 13 |                                                                                                                   | <b><u>FY 24 EOB</u></b> | <b><u>FY 25 REC</u></b> |
| 14 | 01 Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective                                                                             |                         |                         |
| 15 | Care Monitoring Program                                                                                           | \$ 634,328              | \$ 671,737              |
| 16 | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The program tracks and maintains child abuse and neglect cases in the Orleans</i>  |                         |                         |
| 17 | <i>Parish Juvenile Court. It also provides assistance in support of the Families in Need of Services Program.</i> |                         |                         |
| 18 | 02 Orleans Parish Juvenile Court                                                                                  |                         |                         |
| 19 | Reporters                                                                                                         | \$ 118,978              | \$ 127,652              |
| 20 | 03 For the expenses of the Judges'                                                                                |                         |                         |
| 21 | Assistance Program                                                                                                | \$ 61,877               | \$ 63,269               |
| 22 | <b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judges' Assistance Program provides counseling and other assistance to</i>     |                         |                         |
| 23 | <i>judges with substance abuse problems.</i>                                                                      |                         |                         |
| 24 | TOTAL EXPENDITURES (OTHER COURTS                                                                                  |                         |                         |
| 25 | NOT REQUIRED BY STATUTE)                                                                                          | <u>\$ 815,183</u>       | <u>\$ 862,658</u>       |
| 26 | MEANS OF FINANCE:                                                                                                 |                         |                         |
| 27 | State General Fund (Direct)                                                                                       | \$ 815,183              | \$ 862,658              |
| 28 | TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE (OTHER                                                                                     |                         |                         |
| 29 | COURTS NOT REQUIRED BY                                                                                            |                         |                         |
| 30 | STATUTE)                                                                                                          | <u>\$ 815,183</u>       | <u>\$ 862,658</u>       |

31 Section 2.A. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or his duly authorized and  
 32 appointed agent, shall warrant the state treasurer for the allocations herein provided, or for  
 33 so much thereof as may be necessary. The aforesaid warrant shall be paid out of the State  
 34 General Fund, and the state treasurer shall pay said warrant by preference over all other  
 35 warrants, except warrants for the salaries of constitutional officers of the state and warrants  
 36 for expenses of the legislature, which shall be concurrent with the warrant provided by this  
 37 Act.

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



1 C. Any funds herein allocated to the judiciary, any portion of the funds previously  
2 appropriated to the judiciary, other revenue of the judiciary or its agencies, and interest  
3 earnings are hereby appropriated and may be used to defray the expenses of the judiciary;  
4 however, all funds remaining unexpended or unencumbered shall be returnable to the State  
5 General Fund on or before September 1, 2025.

6 D. For Fiscal Year 2024-2025, any surpluses occurring in the appropriations made in  
7 this Act may be transferred from one agency or line-item to another during the fiscal year  
8 in accordance with the rules of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or as approved by the  
9 Supreme Court.

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

14 F. The program descriptions contained in this Act are not part of the law and are not  
15 enacted into law by virtue of their inclusion in this Act.

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 3. The appropriations, and the allocations of such appropriations, from the State  
26 General Fund (Direct) contained in Section 1 of this Act shall be reduced by a total amount  
27 of Thirteen Million Six Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Five  
28 (\$13,666,285) Dollars, pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board  
29 or as approved by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

30 Section 4. The appropriations, and the allocations of such appropriations, from the State  
31 General Fund (Direct) contained in Section 1 of this Act shall be increased by a total amount

1 of Two Million Seven Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Five  
 2 (\$2,771,745) Dollars to be distributed as follows: Seven Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand One  
 3 Hundred Forty-Two (\$758,142) Dollars for the funding of additional positions with Families  
 4 in Need of Services and the Louisiana Protective Order Registry; Seven Hundred Thirty-  
 5 Four Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Three (\$734,553) Dollars for the expansion of Families  
 6 in Need of Services; Six Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$650,000) Dollars for Louisiana Drug and  
 7 Specialty Courts; and Six Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Fifty (\$629,050) Dollars for  
 8 Court Appointed Special Advocates.

9 Section 5. The appropriations, and the allocations of such appropriations, from the State  
 10 General Fund (Direct) contained in Section 1 of this Act shall be increased by a total amount  
 11 of Five Million Seven Hundred Thousand (\$5,700,000) Dollars for the operation of drug  
 12 courts.

13 Section 6.(A) If the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Louisiana Judicial Budgetary  
 14 Control Board each determine that the judiciary has sufficient funding from its approved  
 15 bank account, as reflected in its balance as of June 30, 2024, to fund a one-time stipend as  
 16 authorized in this Section, then the justices of the supreme court shall receive an additional  
 17 one-time payment of Fifteen Thousand Two Hundred Eighty (\$15,280) Dollars; the judges  
 18 of the courts of appeal shall receive an additional one-time payment of Seventeen Thousand  
 19 Six Hundred Eighty (\$17,680) Dollars; the judges of the district courts shall receive an  
 20 additional one-time payment of Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-One (\$14,691)  
 21 Dollars; and the judges of city courts and parish courts shall receive an additional one-time  
 22 payment of Eight and Forty-Five Hundredths (8.45) Percent of their current base salary.

23 (B) The one-time stipend authorized in this Section shall be funded solely by the  
 24 approved bank account of the judiciary based on its balance as of June 30, 2024.

25 (C) The one-time stipend authorized in this Section shall become effective following the  
 26 completion of a work point study of the appellate and district courts in Louisiana with the  
 27 National Center for State Courts and the submission of a report to the Louisiana Supreme  
 28 Court and the Judicial Structure Task Force continued pursuant to House Resolution No. 3  
 29 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

1 (D) The one-time stipend authorized in this Section shall not be funded by a specific  
 2 appropriation of the Louisiana Legislature, and as such shall not be considered compensation  
 3 pursuant to Article V, Section 21 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

4 (E) Any salary increase pursuant to R.S. 13:5636 that occurs by operation of law shall  
 5 be considered a salary increase for purposes of Article V, Section 31 of the Constitution of  
 6 Louisiana.

7 Section 7. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2024; if vetoed by the governor  
 8 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,  
 9 2024, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

10 **COMPARATIVE STATEMENT**

11 In accordance with R.S. 39:51(D), the following represents a comparative statement for  
 12 each Court and program. The existing operating budget for FY 2023-2024 is compared  
 13 to the appropriations for FY 2024-2025 as contained in the original bill.

| <u>Courts and Programs</u>      | <u>Existing Operating Budget</u><br><u>FY 2023-2024</u> | <u>Appropriation Request</u><br><u>FY 2024-2025</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <u>By Expenditure:</u>          |                                                         |                                                     |
| Supreme Court                   | \$ 87,705,242                                           | \$ 94,167,608                                       |
| Courts of Appeal                | \$ 51,986,944                                           | \$ 55,830,638                                       |
| District Courts                 | \$ 54,408,570                                           | \$ 58,983,883                                       |
| Other Courts (statutory)        | \$ 3,601,525                                            | \$ 3,901,082                                        |
| Other Programs (non-statutory)  | \$ 815,183                                              | \$ 862,658                                          |
| Reduction                       | \$ 0                                                    | \$ (\$13,666,285)                                   |
| Addition                        | \$ 0                                                    | \$ 2,771,745                                        |
| Addition                        | \$ 0                                                    | \$ 5,700,000                                        |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>       | <b><u>\$ 198,517,464</u></b>                            | <b><u>\$ 208,551,329</u></b>                        |
| <u>By Means of Finance:</u>     |                                                         |                                                     |
| Total General Fund (Direct)     | \$ 178,883,689                                          | \$ 192,510,095                                      |
| Reduction General Fund (Direct) | \$ 0                                                    | \$ (13,666,285)                                     |
| Addition General Fund (Direct)  | \$ 0                                                    | \$ 2,771,745                                        |
| Addition General Fund (Direct)  | \$ 0                                                    | \$ 5,700,000                                        |
| Total Interagency Transfers     | \$ 9,392,850                                            | \$ 9,392,850                                        |
| Total Statutory Dedications     | \$ 10,240,925                                           | \$ 11,842,924                                       |
| <b>Total Funding</b>            | <b><u>\$ 198,517,464</u></b>                            | <b><u>\$ 208,551,329</u></b>                        |

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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