

2025 Regular Session

ACT No. 390

HOUSE BILL NO. 647

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 Twenty Million Four Hundred Twenty-Four
8 Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven Dollars and No/100 (\$220,424,711) Dollars, or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of the judiciary,
10 including the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, the District Courts, the Criminal District
11 Court of Orleans 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 25 EOB</u>	<u>FY 26 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	\$ 1,389,275
29	02	Salaries and other expenses of the		
30		Supreme Court Proper and salary of		
31		the Crier of the Supreme Court	\$ 12,203,375	\$ 12,756,202

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 \$ 5,859,515 \$ 6,316,766

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 \$ 2,252,985 \$ 2,826,572

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 \$ 367,770 \$ 394,027

31 D. Dues to National Center for
 32 State Courts \$ 186,000 \$ 197,200

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 \$ 1,911,400 \$ 2,013,618
 44

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

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

51 08 Retirement pay for services rendered by
 52 justices and judges of all courts, as
 53 provided by R.S. 11:1358 \$ 539,000 \$ 549,780

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	\$ 743,600
5	10	Judicial College	\$	271,508	\$ 314,344
6	Program Description: <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	\$	21,273,009	\$ 20,578,163
13	12	Civil commitment matters as			
14		required by R.S. 28:54	\$	345,335	\$ 394,520
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	\$	1,598,319	\$ 1,696,359
22	15	Information Technology	\$	2,090,109	\$ 2,165,894
23	16	Operational expenses of			
24		the Families in Need of Services			
25		Program (FINS)	\$	3,456,522	\$ 3,677,314
26	Program Description: <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	17	Louisiana Drug and Specialty Courts	\$	21,235,993	\$ 21,608,707
33	Program Description: <i>Louisiana Drug and Specialty Courts, such as Drug/DWI Treatment Courts,</i>				
34	<i>authorized in 1977 by R.S. 13:5301-5304; Reentry Courts, authorized in 2010 by R.S. 13:5401; Mental</i>				
35	<i>Health Courts, authorized in 2013 by R.S. 13:5353 - 5358; Swift and Certain Program, authorized by R.S.</i>				
36	<i>13:5371; and Veterans Treatment Courts, authorized in 2014 by R.S. 13:5361 - 5368, are proven and</i>				
37	<i>effective alternatives to traditional criminal justice interventions. These programs provide integrated</i>				
38	<i>treatment for substance use and mental health disorders, including the appropriate use of sanctions and</i>				
39	<i>incentives along with case management, to place participants in need of services into appropriate</i>				
40	<i>community-based and judicially supervised rehabilitation programs. Clients are regularly tested and</i>				
41	<i>monitored for compliance with educational, employment, and treatment requirements pursuant to current</i>				
42	<i>best practices and the proven national model.</i>				
43	18	Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$	7,979,354	\$ 8,467,650
44	Program Description: <i>The purpose of the CASA Assistance Program is to promote timely placement of</i>				
45	<i>children in need of care in permanent, safe and stable homes, in accordance with the provisions of</i>				
46	<i>Children's Code articles 424-426. Services are provided through local CASA programs which recruit,</i>				
47	<i>screen, train and supervise community advocates. Upon appointment by the trial judge, qualified</i>				
48	<i>advocates serve children by providing independent factual information to the judge, advocating for the best</i>				
49	<i>interest of the children, monitoring cases to which they have been assigned, and advising and assisting the</i>				
50	<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	\$	7,785,844	\$ 7,785,844
4	Program Description: <i>The Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund was established by the Legislature in 1985 to fund salary supplements and salary-related expenses to judges and commissioners. The funding source is a non-refundable filing fee assessed on civil filings as provided in R.S. 13:10.3.</i>				
5					
6					
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	\$	4,057,080	\$ 4,057,080
11	Program Description: <i>The Case Management Information System (CMIS) was created by the Supreme Court in 1993 to provide a statewide information system for tracking and managing criminal, civil, juvenile, traffic, and appellate cases as well as protective orders. Data is received from courts statewide, transferred to the CMIS repository, and made available to courts and executive branch agencies. Additional information will also be available from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections. CMIS is funded from a court cost assessed on all criminal and traffic convictions as provided under C.Cr.P.887(F).</i>				
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18		TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$	96,422,299	\$ 98,992,224
19		MEANS OF FINANCE:			
20		State General Fund (Direct)	\$	75,186,525	\$ 77,756,450
21		State General Fund by:			
22		Interagency Transfers	\$	9,392,850	\$ 9,392,850
23		Statutory Dedications:			
24		Judges' Supplemental Compensation			
25		Fund	\$	7,785,844	\$ 7,785,844
26		Trial Court Case Management			
27		Information Fund	\$	4,057,080	\$ 4,057,080
28		TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	\$	96,422,299	\$ 98,992,224

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.*

36				<u>FY 25 EOB</u>		<u>FY 26 REC</u>
37	01	Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges				
38		and forty-eight (48) Judges of				
39		the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311	\$	9,022,841	\$	9,959,881
40	02	Salaries and expenses of operation				
41		and maintenance of the Court of				
42		appeal, First Circuit	\$	11,466,595	\$	12,272,821
43	03	Salaries and expenses of operation				
44		and maintenance of the Court of				
45		appeal, Second Circuit	\$	6,494,697	\$	7,001,855
46	04	Salaries and expenses of operation				
47		and maintenance of the Court of				
48		appeal, Third Circuit	\$	9,876,889	\$	10,637,384

1	05	Salaries and expenses of operation		
2		and maintenance of the Court of		
3		Appeal, Fourth Circuit	\$ 9,216,537	\$ 10,090,660
4	06	Salaries and expenses of operation		
5		and maintenance of the Court of		
6		Appeal, Fifth Circuit	\$ 6,798,850	\$ 7,494,260
7		TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	<u>\$ 52,876,409</u>	<u>\$ 57,456,861</u>
8		MEANS OF FINANCE:		
9		State General Fund (Direct)	<u>\$ 52,876,409</u>	<u>\$ 57,456,861</u>
10		TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	<u>\$ 52,876,409</u>	<u>\$ 57,456,861</u>

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

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

27			<u>FY 25 EOB</u>	<u>FY 26 REC</u>
28	01	Salaries of one hundred ninety-one		
29		(191) District Judges as provided		
30		by R.S. 13:691	\$ 31,159,398	\$ 34,332,729
31	02	Office and travel expenses of District		
32		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698		
33		and R.S. 13:694, respectively	\$ 1,293,400	\$ 1,316,050
34	03	Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of		
35		Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,		
36		as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 2,273,223	\$ 2,478,897
37	04	Expenses of Judges of Civil District		
38		Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries		
39		of stenographers, clerks, law books,		
40		stationery, telephone, and like		
41		expenses as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$ 80,500	\$ 80,500
42	05	Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters		
43		of the Twentieth Judicial District Court,		
44		including retirement contributions, as		
45		provided by R.S. 13:966.1	\$ 114,514	\$ 112,992
46	06	Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans		
47		Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
48	07	State share of Group, Workers'		
49		Compensation, General Liability, and		
50		Property Insurance Premiums as		
51		provided by R.S. 42:851	\$ 8,470,171	\$ 8,695,159

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	\$ 626,751
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	\$	483,945	\$ 619,423
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	\$	307,831	\$ 324,377
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>44,928,136</u>	\$ <u>48,681,189</u>
21	13	Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans			
22		Program Description: <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	\$ 2,301,833
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	\$ 870,794
38	D.	Salaries of thirteen (13) minute			
39		clerks as provided by R.S.			
40		13:1373.1	\$	294,775	\$ 281,077
41	E.	Salaries of twenty-six (26) court			
42		reporters as provided by R.S.			
43		13:1373.1	\$	460,845	\$ 442,544
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	\$ 552,016

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	\$ 76,871
7	I. Salaries of four (4) court reporters,			
8	one for each commissioner			
9	as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$	58,103	\$ 56,425
10	J. Salaries of Judicial Administrator,			
11	and assistants, including			
12	related benefits	\$	1,102,944	\$ 1,259,625
13	K. Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks	\$	785,166	\$ 805,622
14	L. Salaries of four (4) secretaries	\$	227,400	\$ 240,154
15	M. Sanity Commissions	\$	58,855	\$ 60,173
16	N. Board of Jury Commissioners	\$	449,742	\$ 470,714
17	SUBTOTAL	\$	<u>7,035,860</u>	\$ <u>7,503,198</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	\$ 2,124,769
22	B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court			
23	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$	649,492	\$ 708,256
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>2,930,775</u>
29	TOTAL EXPENDITURES (District Courts):	\$	<u>54,822,088</u>	\$ <u>59,115,162</u>
30	MEANS OF FINANCE:			
31	State General Fund (Direct)	\$	<u>54,822,088</u>	\$ <u>59,115,162</u>
32	TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING			
33	(District Courts):	\$	<u>54,822,088</u>	\$ <u>59,115,162</u>
34	03-8173 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS			
35	REQUIRED BY STATUTE			
36	Program Description: <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		<u>FY 25 EOB</u>	<u>FY 26 REC</u>	
39	01 Salaries of sixty (60) City Court			
40	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875	\$	3,145,602	\$ 3,432,068

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	\$ 497,443
5	TOTAL EXPENDITURES (OTHER COURTS		
6	REQUIRED BY STATUTE)	\$ 3,601,525	\$ 3,929,511
7	MEANS OF FINANCE:		
8	State General Fund (Direct)	\$ 3,601,525	\$ 3,929,511
9	TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE (OTHER		
10	COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE)	\$ 3,601,525	\$ 3,929,511
11	03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT		
12	REQUIRED BY STATUTE		
13		<u>FY 25 EOB</u>	<u>FY 26 REC</u>
14	01 Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective		
15	Care Monitoring Program	\$ 645,551	\$ 737,015
16	Program Description: <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	\$ 121,580	\$ 130,675
20	03 For the expenses of the Judges'		
21	Assistance Program	\$ 61,877	\$ 63,263
22	Program Description: <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)	\$ 829,008	\$ 930,953
26	MEANS OF FINANCE:		
27	State General Fund (Direct)	\$ 829,008	\$ 930,953
28	TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE (OTHER		
29	COURTS NOT REQUIRED BY		
30	STATUTE)	\$ 829,008	\$ 930,953

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 2025-2026, 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 Eleven Million Eight Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Two
28 (\$11,873,382) 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 Five Hundred Forty Thousand (\$540,000) Dollars to be distributed as follows: Three
2 Hundred Ninety Thousand (\$390,000) Dollars for Court Appointed Special Advocates; and
3 One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) Dollars for Families in Need of Services.

4 Section 5. There shall be authorized a supplement in the same amounts authorized by
5 Section 6(A) of Act 775 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature. This supplement
6 shall be payable in equal monthly installments. This supplement shall be funded by the
7 judiciary itself in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 only, and only in the event there is certification by
8 the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Louisiana Judicial Budgetary Control Board that the
9 judiciary has sufficient reserves to satisfy the obligation.

10 Section 6. The sum of Six Million and No/100 (\$6,000,000) Dollars is hereby
11 appropriated from State General Fund by Statutory Dedications out of the Modernization and
12 Security Fund to the Louisiana Supreme Court for information technology and security
13 infrastructure improvements to be allocated as follows: Three Hundred Fifty Thousand and
14 No/100 (\$350,000) Dollars to replace courtroom oral arguments audio and video equipment;
15 One Million One Hundred Thousand and No/100 (\$1,100,000) Dollars for additional
16 security fencing around the Louisiana Supreme Court Building; Two Million One Hundred
17 Twenty-Five Thousand and No/100 (\$2,125,000) Dollars to replace information technology
18 and security infrastructure nearing end of life; One Million Eight Hundred Twenty-Five
19 Thousand and No/100 (\$1,825,000) Dollars for courthouse security projects for the
20 Louisiana Supreme Court Building; and Six Hundred Thousand and No/100 (\$600,000)
21 Dollars for public portal access to the Case Management System of the Louisiana Protective
22 Order Registry, in the event that House Bill No. 461 of the 2025 Regular Session of the
23 Legislature is enacted into law.

24 Section 7. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025; if vetoed by the governor
25 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,
26 2025, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

In accordance with R.S. 39:51(D), the following represents a comparative statement for each Court and program. The existing operating budget for FY 2024-2025 is compared to the appropriations for FY 2025-2026 as contained in the original bill.

	Existing Operating Budget	Appropriation Request
<u>Courts and Programs</u>	<u>FY 2024-2025</u>	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>
<u>By Expenditure:</u>		
Supreme Court	\$ 96,422,299	\$ 98,992,224
Courts of Appeal	\$ 52,876,409	\$ 57,456,861
District Courts	\$ 54,822,088	\$ 59,115,162
Other Courts (statutory)	\$ 3,601,525	\$ 3,929,511
Other Programs (non-statutory)	\$ 829,008	\$ 930,953
Reduction	\$ 0	\$ (11,873,382)
Addition	\$ 0	\$ 540,000
Addition	\$ 0	\$ 6,000,000
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 208,551,329</u>	<u>\$ 215,091,329</u>
<u>By Means of Finance:</u>		
Total General Fund (Direct)	\$ 187,315,555	\$ 199,188,937
Reduction General Fund (Direct)	\$ 0	\$ (11,873,382)
Addition General Fund (Direct)	\$ 0	\$ 540,000
Total Interagency Transfers	\$ 9,392,850	\$ 9,392,850
Total Statutory Dedications	\$ 11,842,924	\$ 11,842,924
Addition Statutory Dedications	\$ 0	\$ 6,000,000
Total Funding	<u>\$ 208,551,329</u>	<u>\$ 215,091,329</u>

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____