

\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the \*\*\*\*\*

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act creating a 23rd judicial district; revising the 4th and 20th judicial districts; reducing the number of judges in the 20th judicial district; amending sections 3-5-101 and 3-5-102, MCA; and providing effective dates."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

**Section 1.** Section 3-5-101 , MCA, is amended to read:

**"3-5-101. Judicial districts defined.** In this state, there are ~~22~~ 23 judicial districts, distributed as follows:

- (1) 1st district: Lewis and Clark and Broadwater Counties;
- (2) 2nd district: Silver Bow County;
- (3) 3rd district: Deer Lodge, Granite, and Powell Counties;
- (4) 4th district: Missoula ~~and Mineral Counties~~ County;
- (5) 5th district: Beaverhead, Jefferson, and Madison Counties;
- (6) 6th district: Park and Sweet Grass Counties;
- (7) 7th district: Dawson, McCone, Richland, Prairie, and

Wibaux Counties;

- (8) 8th district: Cascade County;
- (9) 9th district: Teton, Pondera, Toole, and Glacier Counties;
- (10) 10th district: Fergus, Judith Basin, and Petroleum

Counties;

- (11) 11th district: Flathead County;
- (12) 12th district: Liberty, Hill, and Chouteau Counties;
- (13) 13th district: Yellowstone County;
- (14) 14th district: Meagher, Wheatland, Golden Valley, and Musselshell Counties;
- (15) 15th district: Roosevelt, Daniels, and Sheridan Counties;
- (16) 16th district: Custer, Carter, Fallon, Powder River, Garfield, Treasure, and Rosebud Counties;
- (17) 17th district: Phillips, Blaine, and Valley Counties;
- (18) 18th district: Gallatin County;
- (19) 19th district: Lincoln County;
- (20) 20th district: ~~Lake and Sanders Counties~~ County;
- (21) 21st district: Ravalli County;
- (22) 22nd district: Stillwater, Carbon, and Big Horn Counties;
- (23) 23rd district: Mineral and Sanders Counties."

{Internal References to 3-5-101: None.}

**Section 2.** Section 3-5-102 , MCA, is amended to read:

**"3-5-102. Number of judges.** In each judicial district, there must be the following number of judges of the district court:

- (1) in the 2nd, 7th, 16th, ~~20th~~, and 21st districts, two judges each;
- (2) in the 18th district, three judges;
- (3) in the 1st, 4th, 8th, and 11th districts, four judges each;
- (4) in the 13th district, six judges;
- (5) in all other districts, one judge each."

{Internal References to 3-5-102: None.}

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Election of district court judge -- 23rd district.** There must be an election for the office of the 23rd district court judge at the general election to be held November 2018 for a 6-year term to begin in January 2019.

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. {standard} Effective dates. (1)** Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is effective January 1, 2019.

(2) [Section 3] is effective immediately.

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