Judicial Redistricting Commission

Analysis of Proposal 4

Proposed by Judge Greg Todd

Description:

- Eliminate the 14th Judicial District.
 - o Move Musselshell and Golden Valley Counties to the 10th Judicial District
 - o Move Wheatland and Meagher Counties to the 6th Judicial District
 - o One judge position would be available to shift to another judicial district after 2018.

Montana Judicial Redistricting Commission Post Office Box 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706

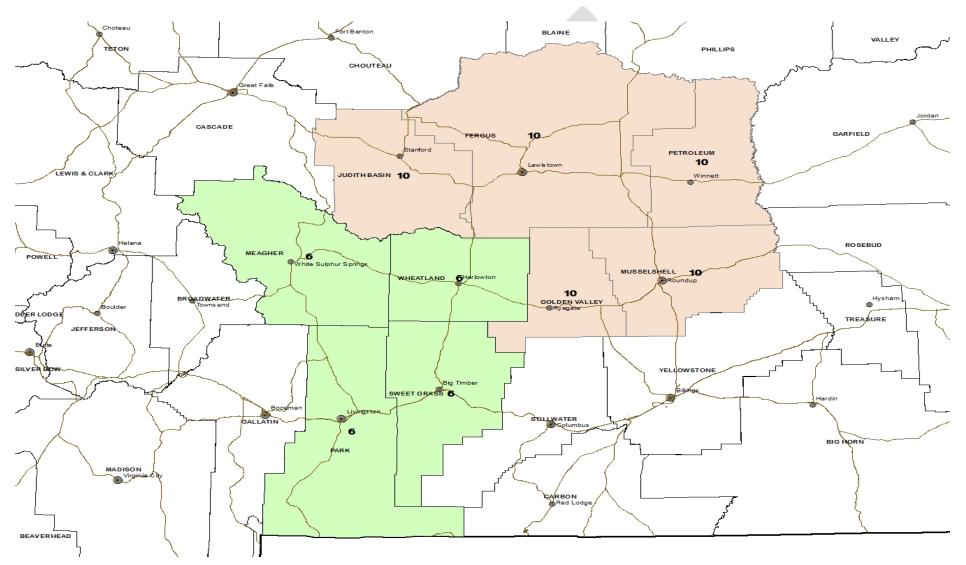
> Phone: 406-444-5367 Fax: 406-444-3036

Email: rweiss@mt.gov
Website: www.leg.mt.gov/jrc





Map of Proposal 4





Comparison of Existing Districts to Proposed Districts: Judges and District Workload Data

	6 th District –	6 th District –	10 th District –	10 th District -	14 th District –	14 th District -
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
Counties	2	3	3	4	4	N/A
Judges	1	1	1	1	1	N/A
Judge Locations	Livingston	Livingston until 2018 election; TBD after election	Lewistown	Lewistown until 2018 election; TBD after election	Roundup	N/A
Expiration of Judge Terms	2018	Same	2018	Same	2018	N/A
Distance from furthest county seats	35 miles (Livingston to Big Timber)	94 miles (Big Timber to White Sulphur Springs)	99 miles (Stanford to Winnett)	120 miles (Stanford to Roundup)	126 miles (Roundup to White Sulphur Springs)	N/A
2015 District Judicial Demand (includes travel)*	1.02	1.23	1.00	1.36	0.62	N/A
2015 District Judicial Need*	0.02	0.23	0.00	0.36	-0.38	N/A

^{*} The travel factors remain as calculated in the 2015 data for the districts. Changes in travel due to reallocation of counties could not be calculated, but will affect the reliability of the judicial need calculation. Some districts might experience a reduction in judge travel; others might experience an increase.

The district assigned the judge position freed up by the elimination of the 14th District will experience a reduction in judicial need of 1.0.

Comparison of Existing Districts to Proposed Districts: County Judge Needs and Populations

	6 th District –	6 th District –	10 th District –	10 th District -	14 th District –	14 th District -
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
2014 County						
Population Estimates						
Park	15,880	15,880	-	-	-	-
Sweet Grass	3,665	3,665	-	-	-	-
Fergus	-	-	11,442	11,442	-	-
Judith Basin	-	-	1,991	1,991	-	-
Petroleum	-	-	485	485	-	-
Golden Valley	-	-	-	852	852	-
Meagher	-	1,853	-	-	1,853	-
Musselshell	-	-	-	4,589	4,589	-
Wheatland	-	2,102	-	-	2,102	-
Total	19,545 (16 th of 22)	23,500 (16th of 21)	13,918 (21 st of 22)	19,359 (17 th of 21)	9,396 (22 nd of 22)	-
					-	
2015 Judge Need by						
County (no travel or						
treatment court time						
ncluded)						
Park	0.8	0.8	-	-	-	-
Sweet Grass	0.12	0.12	-	-	-	-
Fergus	-	-	0.85	0.85	-	-
Judith Basin	-	-	0.08	0.08	-	-
Petroleum	-	-	0.02	0.02	-	-
Golden Valley	-	-	-	0.03	0.03	-
Meagher	-	0.08	-	-	0.08	-
Musselshell	-	-	-	0.33	0.33	-
Wheatland	-	0.13	-	-	0.13	-
Total	0.92	1.13	0.95	1.31	.57	-

Other Information

Other notes

• The travel factors remain as calculated in the 2015 data for the districts. Changes in travel due to reallocation of counties could not be calculated, but will affect the reliability of the judicial need calculation. Some districts might experience a reduction in judge travel; others might experience an increase.



