

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 25-0445.02 Chelsea Princell x4335

SENATE BILL 25-024

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts and Frizell,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees

Judiciary
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING JUDICIAL OFFICERS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
102 **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Beginning July 1, 2025, the bill increases by one the number of district court judges in the eighth, thirteenth, nineteenth, and twenty-third judicial districts; increases by 2 the number of district court judges in the fourth, seventeenth, and eighteenth judicial districts; and increases by one the number of county court judges in Douglas county, La Plata county, Larimer county, Mesa county, Weld county, Eagle county, Adams county,

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

and Arapahoe county.

Beginning July 1, 2026, the bill increases by one the number of district court judges in the second, seventh, seventeenth, eighteenth, and twentieth judicial districts and the Denver probate court; increases by 2 the number of district court judges in the fourth judicial district; and increases by 3 the number of judges serving on the court of appeals.

Current law requires district court judges regularly assigned to Arapahoe county to maintain offices within Arapahoe county. The bill allows the district court judges assigned to Arapahoe county to maintain offices outside of the county seat.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

2
3 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-103, **add** (2)(f)
4 as follows:

5 **13-5-103. Second district.** (2) (f) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
6 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
7 THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS TWENTY-EIGHT.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-105, **add** (2)(i),
9 (2)(j), and (2)(k) as follows:

10 **13-5-105. Fourth district.** (2) (i) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
11 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
12 THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS TWENTY-FIVE.

13 (j) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
14 2026, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS
15 TWENTY-SIX.

16 (k) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
17 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS
18 TWENTY-SEVEN.

19 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-108, **amend**
20 (2)(c); and **add** (2)(d) as follows:

1 **13-5-108. Seventh district.** (2) (c) ~~Notwithstanding the~~
2 ~~provisions of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2);~~ Subject to available
3 appropriations, effective July 1, 2011, the number of judges for the
4 seventh judicial district ~~shall be~~ IS five.

5 (d) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
6 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS SIX.

7 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-109, **add** (2)(f)
8 as follows:

9 **13-5-109. Eighth district.** (2) (f) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
10 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
11 THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS TEN.

12 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-114, **add** (2)(c)
13 as follows:

14 **13-5-114. Thirteenth district.** (2) (c) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
15 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
16 THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS SIX.

17 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-118, **add** (2)(h)
18 and (2)(i) as follows:

19 **13-5-118. Seventeenth district.** (2) (h) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
20 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
21 THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS SEVENTEEN.

22 (i) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
23 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
24 IS EIGHTEEN.

25 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-119, **amend**
26 (2)(e); and **add** (2)(d)(VIII) and (2)(d)(IX) as follows:

27 **13-5-119. Eighteenth district.** (2) (d) (VIII) SUBJECT TO

1 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, THE NUMBER OF
2 JUDGES FOR THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS EIGHTEEN.

3 (IX) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
4 2027, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS
5 TWENTY.

6 (e) The district judges regularly assigned to Arapahoe county ~~shall~~
7 ~~maintain their offices in one location within Arapahoe county~~ MAY
8 MAINTAIN OFFICES OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

9 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-120, **add** (2)(i)
10 as follows:

11 **13-5-120. Nineteenth district.** (2) (i) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
12 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
13 THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS TWELVE.

14
15 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-5-123.1, **add** (3)
16 as follows:

17 **13-5-123.1. Twenty-third district.** (3) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
18 APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR
19 THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS NINE.

20 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal and reenact,**
21 **with amendments,** 13-6-202 as follows:

22 **13-6-202. Number of judges.** (1) THERE IS ONE COUNTY JUDGE
23 IN EACH COUNTY, EXCEPT THAT:

24 (a) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
25 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF JEFFERSON IS NINE;

26 (b) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
27 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF EL PASO IS TEN;

1 (c) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
2 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF ADAMS IS EIGHT; AND

3 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
4 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF ADAMS IS NINE;

5 (d) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
6 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE IS EIGHT; AND

7 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
8 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE IS
9 NINE;

10 (e) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
11 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF BOULDER IS FIVE;

12 (f) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
13 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF PUEBLO IS THREE;

14 (g) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
15 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER IS THE NUMBER OF
16 COUNTY JUDGES PROVIDED BY THE CHARTER AND ORDINANCES THEREOF;

17 (h) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
18 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF LARIMER IS FIVE; AND

19 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
20 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF LARIMER IS SIX;

21 (i) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
22 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS IS THREE; AND

23 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
24 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS IS
25 FOUR;

26 (j) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
27 2025, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF LA PLATA IS

1 TWO;

2 (k) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
3 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF MESA IS THREE; AND

4 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
5 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF MESA IS FOUR;

6 (l) (I) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE NUMBER OF
7 COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF WELD IS FOUR; AND

8 (II) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
9 2027, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF WELD IS FIVE;

10 AND

11 (m) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
12 2026, THE NUMBER OF COUNTY JUDGES IN THE COUNTY OF EAGLE IS TWO.

13 (2) (a) ONE OF THE COUNTY JUDGES IN BOULDER COUNTY SHALL
14 MAINTAIN A COURTROOM IN THE CITY OF LONGMONT AT LEAST THREE
15 DAYS PER WEEK.

16 (b) A JUDGE OF THE EAGLE COUNTY COURT SHALL CONDUCT
17 COURT BUSINESS IN THAT PORTION OF EAGLE COUNTY LYING IN THE
18 ROARING FORK RIVER DRAINAGE AREA IN A MANNER SUFFICIENT TO DEAL
19 WITH THE BUSINESS BEFORE THE COURT.

20

21 SECTION 11. Appropriation. (1) For the 2025-26 state fiscal
22 year, \$3,168,698 is appropriated to the judicial department for use by the
23 state courts. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement
24 this act, the state courts may use this appropriation as follows:

25 (a) \$95,735 for use by courts administration for general courts
26 administration, which amount is based on an assumption that courts
27 administration will require an additional 0.9 FTE;

- 1 (b) \$2,120,625 for use by trial courts for trial court programs,
2 which amount is based on an assumption that the trial courts will require
3 an additional 17.5 FTE;
4 (c) \$228,529 for health, life, and dental;
5 (d) \$694 for short-term disability;
6 (e) \$8,544 for paid family and medical leave insurance;
7 (f) \$189,871 for unfunded liability amortization equalization
8 disbursement payments;
9 (g) \$122,500 for capital outlay; and
10 (h) \$402,200 for courthouse furnishings and infrastructure
11 maintenance.

12 **SECTION 12. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
15 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
16 institutions.