

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1467

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*As Amended by the Senate*

**Title:** An act relating to district judges.

**Brief Description:** Increasing the number of district judges.

**Sponsor(s):** Representatives R. Meyers, Padden, Paris, Tate, Mielke, Broback, Forner, Vance, May, Brough, Winsley, D. Sommers, Mitchell and Roland.

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Judiciary, February 20, 1991, DP;  
Passed House, March 11, 1991, 93-0;  
Amended by Senate.

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**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY**

**Majority Report:** *Do pass.* Signed by 19 members:  
Representatives Appelwick, Chair; Ludwig, Vice Chair;  
Padden, Ranking Minority Member; Paris, Assistant Ranking  
Minority Member; Belcher; Broback; Forner; Hargrove; Inslee;  
Locke; R. Meyers; Mielke; H. Myers; Riley; Scott;  
D. Sommers; Tate; Vance; and Wineberry.

**Staff:** Bill Perry (786-7123).

**Background:** The minimum number of district court judges in each county is set by statute. Periodically, these numbers are adjusted to reflect shifts in population and caseloads.

**Summary of Bill:** The minimum numbers of district court judges in three counties are increased as follows:

- o King County from 24 to 26;
- o Pierce County from 8 to 11; and
- o Spokane County from 8 to 9.

**EFFECT OF SENATE AMENDMENT(S):** The amendment reduces from three to two the minimum number of district court judges in Pacific County.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** The workload for the district courts in these counties justifies the additional judges.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Witnesses:** Michele Radosevich, Washington State Trial Lawyers Association (in favor); Ron Main, King County (in favor); Kurt Sharar, Washington State Association of Counties (in favor); and Jim Heller, Pierce County District Court (in favor).

**VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE:**

Yeas 93; Excused 2; Absent 3

Excused: Representatives Holland, Padden

Absent: Representatives Rayburn, Sprenkle, Wang