

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 6596

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Synopsis as Enacted

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

**Sponsors:** Senators McCaslin, Brown, Long, Sheahan, Johnson, Kline, Roach and West.

**Senate Committee on Judiciary**  
**House Committee on Judiciary**

**Background:** The number of district court judges in each county is set by statute. There is a procedure, also in statute, for changing the number of judges in a county.

The Legislature determines the number of district court judges in a county after receiving a recommendation of the Supreme Court. The process of formulating such a recommendation involves the use of a "weighted caseload" analysis developed by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The weighted caseload analysis includes consideration of the amount of judicial time and resources needed to process various kinds of cases.

**Summary:** The number of district court judges in Spokane County is increased from nine to ten.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	48	0
House	93	0

**Effective:** June 13, 2002