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**SENATE BILL 5450**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Rivers and Wilson, L.; by request of Board For Judicial Administration

1 AN ACT Relating to superior court judges; amending RCW 2.08.062  
2 and 2.08.065; and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.08.062 and 2003 c 96 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 There shall be in the county of Chelan four judges of the  
7 superior court; in the county of Douglas one judge of the superior  
8 court; in the county of Clark (~~ten~~) eleven judges of the superior  
9 court; in the county of Grays Harbor three judges of the superior  
10 court; in the county of Kitsap eight judges of the superior court; in  
11 the county of Kittitas two judges of the superior court; in the  
12 county of Lewis three judges of the superior court.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The additional judicial position  
14 created by section 1 of this act is effective only if Clark county  
15 through its duly constituted legislative authority documents its  
16 approval of the additional position and its agreement that it will  
17 pay out of county funds, without reimbursement from the state, the  
18 expenses of the additional judicial position as provided by state law  
19 or the state Constitution.

1 (2) The judicial position created by section 1 of this act is  
2 effective no earlier than the effective date of this section. The  
3 actual starting date for the position may be established by the Clark  
4 county legislative authority upon request of the superior court and  
5 by recommendation of the Clark county executive authority, if any.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 2.08.065 and 2014 c 169 s 1 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 There shall be in the county of Grant, three judges of the  
9 superior court; in the county of Okanogan, two judges of the superior  
10 court; in the county of Mason, three judges of the superior court; in  
11 the county of Thurston, eight judges of the superior court; in the  
12 counties of Pacific and Wahkiakum jointly, one judge of the superior  
13 court; in the counties of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens jointly,  
14 (~~two~~) three judges of the superior court; in the county of San  
15 Juan, one judge of the superior court; and in the county of Island,  
16 two judges of the superior court.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The additional judicial position  
18 created by section 3 of this act is effective only if Ferry, Pend  
19 Oreille, and Stevens counties, jointly through their duly constituted  
20 legislative authorities, document their approval of the additional  
21 position and their agreement that they will pay out of county funds,  
22 without reimbursement from the state, the expenses of the additional  
23 judicial position as provided by state law and the state  
24 Constitution.

25 (2) The judicial position created by section 3 of this act is  
26 effective no later than January 1, 2020. An earlier starting date for  
27 the position may be established by joint action of the duly  
28 constituted legislative authorities of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and  
29 Stevens counties, upon request of the superior court and by  
30 recommendation of the executive authorities of each of Ferry, Pend  
31 Oreille, and Stevens counties, if any.

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