

1 AN ACT relating to judicial districts and circuits.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 23A.020 is amended to read as follows:

4 The state is divided into judicial circuits, each to be composed of the following counties:

- 5 (1) First Judicial Circuit. Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, and Hickman.
- 6 (2) Second Judicial Circuit. McCracken.
- 7 (3) Third Judicial Circuit. Christian.
- 8 (4) Fourth Judicial Circuit. Hopkins.
- 9 (5) Fifth Judicial Circuit. Crittenden, Union, and Webster.
- 10 (6) Sixth Judicial Circuit. Daviess ***and Hancock***.
- 11 (7) Seventh Judicial Circuit. Logan and Todd.
- 12 (8) Eighth Judicial Circuit. Warren.
- 13 (9) Ninth Judicial Circuit. Hardin.
- 14 (10) Tenth Judicial Circuit. Hart, Larue, and Nelson.
- 15 (11) Eleventh Judicial Circuit. Green, Marion, Taylor, and Washington.
- 16 (12) Twelfth Judicial Circuit. Henry, Oldham, and Trimble.
- 17 (13) Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. Garrard and Jessamine.
- 18 (14) Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. Bourbon, Scott, and Woodford.
- 19 (15) Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. Carroll, Grant, and Owen.
- 20 (16) Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. Kenton.
- 21 (17) Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. Campbell.
- 22 (18) Eighteenth Judicial Circuit. Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, and Robertson.
- 23 (19) Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. Bracken, Fleming, and Mason.
- 24 (20) Twentieth Judicial Circuit. Greenup and Lewis.
- 25 (21) Twenty-first Judicial Circuit. Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, and Rowan.
- 26 (22) Twenty-second Judicial Circuit. Fayette.
- 27 (23) Twenty-third Judicial Circuit. Estill, Lee, and Owsley.

- 1 (24) Twenty-fourth Judicial Circuit. Lawrence, Johnson, and Martin.
- 2 (25) Twenty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Clark and Madison.
- 3 (26) Twenty-sixth Judicial Circuit. Harlan.
- 4 (27) Twenty-seventh Judicial Circuit. Knox and Laurel.
- 5 (28) Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit. Lincoln, Pulaski, and Rockcastle.
- 6 (29) Twenty-ninth Judicial Circuit. Adair and Casey.
- 7 (30) Thirtieth Judicial Circuit. Jefferson.
- 8 (31) Thirty-first Judicial Circuit. Floyd.
- 9 (32) Thirty-second Judicial Circuit. Boyd.
- 10 (33) Thirty-third Judicial Circuit. Perry.
- 11 (34) Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit. Whitley and McCreary.
- 12 (35) Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Pike.
- 13 (36) Thirty-sixth Judicial Circuit. Magoffin and Knott.
- 14 (37) Thirty-seventh Judicial Circuit. Carter, Elliott, and Morgan.
- 15 (38) Thirty-eighth Judicial Circuit. Butler, Edmonson, **and** Ohio~~, and Hancock~~.
- 16 (39) Thirty-ninth Judicial Circuit. Breathitt, Wolfe, and Powell.
- 17 (40) Fortieth Judicial Circuit. Clinton, Cumberland, and Monroe.
- 18 (41) Forty-first Judicial Circuit. Clay, Jackson, and Leslie.
- 19 (42) Forty-second Judicial Circuit. Calloway and Marshall.
- 20 (43) Forty-third Judicial Circuit. Barren and Metcalfe.
- 21 (44) Forty-fourth Judicial Circuit. Bell.
- 22 (45) Forty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Muhlenberg and McLean.
- 23 (46) Forty-sixth Judicial Circuit. Breckinridge, Grayson, and Meade.
- 24 (47) Forty-seventh Judicial Circuit. Letcher.
- 25 (48) Forty-eighth Judicial Circuit. Franklin.
- 26 (49) Forty-ninth Judicial Circuit. Allen and Simpson.
- 27 (50) Fiftieth Judicial Circuit. Boyle and Mercer.

- 1 (51) Fifty-first Judicial Circuit. Henderson.
 2 (52) Fifty-second Judicial Circuit. Graves.
 3 (53) Fifty-third Judicial Circuit. Shelby, Anderson, and Spencer.
 4 (54) Fifty-fourth Judicial Circuit. Boone and Gallatin.
 5 (55) Fifty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Bullitt.
 6 (56) Fifty-sixth Judicial Circuit. Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, and Trigg.
 7 (57) Fifty-seventh Judicial Circuit. Russell and Wayne.

8 ➔Section 2. KRS 23A.040 (Effective January 2, 2023) is amended to read as
 9 follows:

10 The following judicial circuits are entitled to two (2) judges and shall have two (2)
 11 numbered divisions of the Circuit Court:

- 12 (1) Fourth Judicial Circuit.
 13 (2) Fifth Judicial Circuit.
 14 (3) Tenth Judicial Circuit.
 15 (4) Eleventh Judicial Circuit.
 16 (5) Twelfth Judicial Circuit.
 17 (6) Thirteenth Judicial Circuit.
 18 (7) **Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.**
 19 **(8)** Eighteenth Judicial Circuit.
 20 **(9)**~~(8)~~ Twentieth Judicial Circuit.
 21 **(10)**~~(9)~~ Twenty-first Judicial Circuit.
 22 **(11)**~~(10)~~ Twenty-fourth Judicial Circuit.
 23 **(12)**~~(11)~~ Thirty-first Judicial Circuit.
 24 **(13)**~~(12)~~ Thirty-second Judicial Circuit.
 25 **(14)**~~(13)~~ Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit.
 26 **(15)**~~(14)~~ Thirty-seventh Judicial Circuit.
 27 **(16)**~~(15)~~ Thirty-eighth Judicial Circuit.

1 ~~(17)~~~~(16)~~ Thirty-ninth Judicial Circuit.

2 ~~(18)~~~~(17)~~ Forty-first Judicial Circuit.

3 ~~(19)~~~~(18)~~ Forty-second Judicial Circuit.

4 ~~(20)~~~~(19)~~ Forty-third Judicial Circuit.

5 ~~(21)~~~~(20)~~ Forty-sixth Judicial Circuit.

6 ~~(22)~~~~(21)~~ Forty-ninth Judicial Circuit.

7 ~~(23)~~~~(22)~~ Fiftieth Judicial Circuit.

8 ~~(24)~~~~(23)~~ Fifty-first Judicial Circuit.

9 ~~(25)~~~~(24)~~ Fifty-third Judicial Circuit.

10 **(26) Fifty-sixth Judicial Circuit.**

11 ~~(27)~~~~(25)~~ Fifty-seventh Judicial Circuit.

12 ➔Section 3. KRS 23A.045 (Effective January 2, 2023) is amended to read as
13 follows:

14 The following judicial circuits are entitled to three (3) Circuit Judges and shall have three
15 (3) numbered divisions of the Circuit Court:

16 (1) Second Judicial Circuit.

17 (2) Third Judicial Circuit.

18 (3) ~~Sixth Judicial Circuit.~~

19 ~~(4) Fourteenth Judicial Circuit.]~~

20 ~~(5)]~~ Seventeenth Judicial Circuit.

21 ~~(6) Twenty-seventh Judicial Circuit.]~~

22 ~~(4)~~~~(7)~~ Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit.

23 ~~(5)~~~~(8)~~ Forty-eighth Judicial Circuit.

24 ~~(6)~~~~(9)~~ Fifty-fifth Judicial Circuit.

25 ➔Section 4. KRS 23A.050 is amended to read as follows:

26 The following judicial circuits are entitled to four (4) judges and shall have four (4)
27 numbered divisions of the Circuit Court:

1 (1) **Sixth Judicial Circuit.**

2 **(2)** Eighth Judicial Circuit.

3 **(3)**~~[(2)]~~ Ninth Judicial Circuit.

4 **(4)** **Fourteenth Judicial Circuit.**

5 **(5)**~~[(3)]~~ Twenty-fifth Judicial Circuit.

6 **(6)** **Twenty-seventh Judicial Circuit.**

7 **(7)**~~[(4)]~~ Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit.

8 **(8)**~~[(5)]~~ Fifty-fourth Judicial Circuit.

9 ➔Section 5. KRS 24A.030 (Effective January 2, 2023) is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 The state is divided into judicial districts, each to be composed of the following counties:

12 (1) First Judicial District. Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, and Hickman.

13 (2) Second Judicial District. McCracken.

14 (3) Third Judicial District. Christian.

15 (4) Fourth Judicial District. Hopkins.

16 (5) Fifth Judicial District. Crittenden, Union, and Webster.

17 (6) Sixth Judicial District. Daviess **and Hancock.**

18 (7) Seventh Judicial District. Logan and Todd.

19 (8) Eighth Judicial District. Warren.

20 (9) Ninth Judicial District. Hardin.

21 (10) Tenth Judicial District. Hart and Larue.

22 (11) Eleventh Judicial District. Green, Marion, Taylor, and Washington.

23 (12) Twelfth Judicial District. Henry, Oldham, and Trimble.

24 (13) Thirteenth Judicial District. Garrard, Jessamine, and Lincoln.

25 (14) Fourteenth Judicial District. Bourbon, Scott, and Woodford.

26 (15) Fifteenth Judicial District. Carroll, Grant, and Owen.

27 (16) Sixteenth Judicial District. Kenton.

- 1 (17) Seventeenth Judicial District. Campbell.
- 2 (18) Eighteenth Judicial District. Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, and Robertson.
- 3 (19) Nineteenth Judicial District. Bracken, Fleming, and Mason.
- 4 (20) Twentieth Judicial District. Greenup and Lewis.
- 5 (21) Twenty-first Judicial District. Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, and Rowan.
- 6 (22) Twenty-second Judicial District. Fayette.
- 7 (23) Twenty-third Judicial District. Estill, Lee, and Owsley.
- 8 (24) Twenty-fourth Judicial District. Lawrence, Johnson, and Martin.
- 9 (25) Twenty-fifth Judicial District. Clark and Madison.
- 10 (26) Twenty-sixth Judicial District. Harlan.
- 11 (27) Twenty-seventh Judicial District. Knox and Laurel.
- 12 (28) Twenty-eighth Judicial District. Pulaski and Rockcastle.
- 13 (29) Twenty-ninth Judicial District. Adair and Casey.
- 14 (30) Thirtieth Judicial District. Jefferson.
- 15 (31) Thirty-first Judicial District. Floyd.
- 16 (32) Thirty-second Judicial District. Boyd.
- 17 (33) Thirty-third Judicial District. Perry.
- 18 (34) Thirty-fourth Judicial District. Whitley and McCreary.
- 19 (35) Thirty-fifth Judicial District. Pike.
- 20 (36) Thirty-sixth Judicial District. Magoffin and Knott.
- 21 (37) Thirty-seventh Judicial District. Carter, Elliott, and Morgan.
- 22 (38) Thirty-eighth Judicial District. Butler, Edmonson, ***and*** Ohio~~[, and Hancock]~~.
- 23 (39) Thirty-ninth Judicial District. Breathitt, Wolfe, and Powell.
- 24 (40) Fortieth Judicial District. Clinton, Russell, and Wayne.
- 25 (41) Forty-first Judicial District. Clay, Jackson, and Leslie.
- 26 (42) Forty-second Judicial District. Calloway.
- 27 (43) Forty-third Judicial District. Barren and Metcalfe.

- 1 (44) Forty-fourth Judicial District. Bell.
- 2 (45) Forty-fifth Judicial District. Muhlenberg and McLean.
- 3 (46) Forty-sixth Judicial District. Breckinridge, Grayson, and Meade.
- 4 (47) Forty-seventh Judicial District. Letcher.
- 5 (48) Forty-eighth Judicial District. Franklin.
- 6 (49) Forty-ninth Judicial District. Allen and Simpson.
- 7 (50) Fiftieth Judicial District. Boyle and Mercer.
- 8 (51) Fifty-first Judicial District. Henderson.
- 9 (52) Fifty-second Judicial District. Graves.
- 10 (53) Fifty-third Judicial District. Shelby, Anderson, and Spencer.
- 11 (54) Fifty-fourth Judicial District. Boone and Gallatin.
- 12 (55) Fifty-fifth Judicial District. Bullitt.
- 13 (56) Fifty-sixth Judicial District. Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, and Trigg.
- 14 (57) Fifty-seventh Judicial District. Nelson.
- 15 (58) Fifty-eighth Judicial District. Marshall.
- 16 (59) Fifty-ninth Judicial District. Cumberland and Monroe.

17 ➔Section 6. KRS 24A.050 is amended to read as follows:

18 The following judicial districts are entitled to two (2) District Judges and shall have two
19 (2) numbered divisions of the District Court:

- 20 (1) Second Judicial District.
- 21 (2) Third Judicial District.
- 22 (3) Fourth Judicial District.
- 23 (4) Ninth Judicial District.
- 24 (5) Eleventh Judicial District.
- 25 (6) Twelfth Judicial District.
- 26 (7) Thirteenth Judicial District.
- 27 (8) Fourteenth Judicial District.

- 1 (9) ~~Fifteenth Judicial District.~~
2 ~~(10) Seventeenth Judicial District.~~
3 (10)~~(11)~~ Twenty-first Judicial District.
4 (11)~~(12)~~ Twenty-fourth Judicial District.
5 (12)~~(13)~~ Twenty-seventh Judicial District.
6 (13)~~(14)~~ Twenty-eighth Judicial District.
7 (14)~~(15)~~ Thirty-first Judicial District.
8 (15)~~(16)~~ Thirty-second Judicial District.
9 (16)~~(17)~~ Thirty-fourth Judicial District.
10 (17)~~(18)~~ Thirty-fifth Judicial District.
11 ~~(19) Thirty-eighth Judicial District.~~
12 (18)~~(20)~~ Fortieth Judicial District.
13 (19)~~(21)~~ Forty-first Judicial District.
14 (20)~~(22)~~ Forty-sixth Judicial District.
15 (21)~~(23)~~ Forty-eighth Judicial District.
16 (22)~~(24)~~ Fifty-first Judicial District.
17 (23)~~(25)~~ Fifty-third Judicial District.
18 (24)~~(26)~~ Fifty-fourth Judicial District.
19 (25)~~(27)~~ Fifty-sixth Judicial District.

20 ➔Section 7. KRS 202A.051 is amended to read as follows:

- 21 (1) Proceedings for sixty (60) days or three hundred sixty (360) days of involuntary
22 hospitalization of an individual shall be initiated by the filing of a verified petition
23 in District Court.
24 (2) The petition and all subsequent court documents shall be entitled: "In the interest of
25 (name of respondent)."
26 (3) The petition shall be filed by a qualified mental health professional, peace officer,
27 county attorney, Commonwealth's attorney, spouse, relative, friend, or guardian of

- 1 the individual concerning whom the petition is filed, or any other interested person.
- 2 (4) The petition shall set forth:
- 3 (a) Petitioner's relationship to the respondent;
- 4 (b) Respondent's name, residence, and current location, if known;
- 5 (c) The name and residence of respondent's parents, if living and if known, or
- 6 respondent's legal guardian, if any and if known;
- 7 (d) The name and residence of respondent's husband or wife, if any and if known;
- 8 (e) The name and residence of the person having custody of the respondent, if
- 9 any, or if no such person is known, the name and residence of a near relative
- 10 or that the person is unknown;
- 11 (f) Petitioner's belief, including the factual basis therefor, that the respondent is
- 12 mentally ill and presents a danger or threat of danger to self, family or others
- 13 if not restrained; and
- 14 (g) If the petition seeks a three hundred sixty (360) day involuntary
- 15 hospitalization of the respondent, the petition shall further set forth that the
- 16 respondent has been hospitalized in a hospital or a forensic psychiatric facility
- 17 for a period of thirty (30) days under the provisions of this chapter or KRS
- 18 Chapter 504 within the preceding six (6) months.
- 19 (5) Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall examine the petitioner under oath as to
- 20 the contents of the petition. If the petitioner is a qualified mental health
- 21 professional, the court may dispense with the examination.
- 22 (6) If after reviewing the allegations contained in the petition and examining the
- 23 petitioner under oath, it appears to the court that there is probable cause to believe
- 24 the respondent should be involuntarily hospitalized, the court shall, unless either the
- 25 court or one (1) of the parties objects, implement the procedures provided in KRS
- 26 202A.028 and order the individual to be examined without unnecessary delay by a
- 27 qualified mental health professional. If the person is not being held under the

1 provisions of this chapter, the court may order that the sheriff of the county or other
2 peace officer transport the person to a hospital or psychiatric facility designated by
3 the cabinet for the purpose of the evaluation. The sheriff or other peace officer may,
4 upon agreement of a person authorized by the peace officer, authorize the cabinet, a
5 private agency on contract with the cabinet, or an ambulance service designated by
6 the cabinet to transport the person to a hospital or psychiatric facility. Following
7 that, the procedures as set forth in KRS 202A.028 shall be carried out. Otherwise,
8 the court shall:

- 9 (a) Set a date for a preliminary hearing within six (6) days from the date of
10 holding the person under the provisions of this section (excluding holidays
11 and weekends) to determine if there is probable cause to believe the person
12 should be involuntarily hospitalized;
- 13 (b) Notify the respondent, the legal guardian, if any, and if known, and the
14 spouse, parents, or nearest relative or friend of the respondent concerning the
15 allegations and contents of the petition and the date and purpose of the
16 preliminary hearing; and the name, address, and telephone number of the
17 attorney appointed to represent the respondent; and
- 18 (c) Cause the respondent to be examined without unnecessary delay by two (2)
19 qualified mental health professionals, at least one (1) of whom is a physician.
20 The qualified mental health professionals shall certify within twenty-four (24)
21 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) their findings.
- 22 (7) (a) If the respondent is being presently held under the provisions of this chapter,
23 the court may order further holding of the respondent to accomplish the
24 examination ordered by the court.
- 25 (b) If the respondent is not being presently held under the provisions of this
26 chapter, the court may order that the sheriff of the county or a peace officer
27 transport the respondent to a hospital or a psychiatric facility designated by the

1 cabinet so that the respondent shall be examined without unnecessary delay by
 2 two (2) qualified mental health professionals, at least one (1) of whom is a
 3 physician. The sheriff or other peace officer may authorize, upon agreement of
 4 a person authorized by the peace officer, the cabinet, a private agency on
 5 contract with the cabinet, or an ambulance service designated by the cabinet to
 6 transport the person to a hospital or psychiatric facility.

7 (8) When the court is authorized to issue an order that the respondent be transported to
 8 a hospital or psychiatric facility, the court may, in its discretion, issue a summons. A
 9 summons so issued shall be directed to the respondent, shall command the
 10 respondent to appear at a time and place therein specified where the respondent
 11 shall be there examined by two (2) qualified mental health professionals, at least
 12 one (1) of whom is a physician, and shall command the respondent's appearance at
 13 the preliminary hearing. If a respondent who has been summoned fails to appear for
 14 such examination or at the preliminary hearing, the court may order that the sheriff
 15 of the county or a peace officer transport the respondent to a hospital or psychiatric
 16 facility designated by the cabinet for the purpose of an evaluation.

17 (9) (a) The Court of Justice shall provide a protocol in each county for twenty-four
 18 (24) hour access to orders for involuntary hospitalization requested
 19 pursuant to this section or KRS 202A.028.

20 (b) All protocols and any subsequent amendments shall be subject to Supreme
 21 Court review and approval.

22 (10) If upon completion of the preliminary hearing, the court finds there is probable
 23 cause to believe the respondent should be involuntarily hospitalized, the court shall
 24 order a final hearing within twenty-one (21) days from the date of holding the
 25 respondent under the provisions of this section to determine if the respondent
 26 should be involuntarily hospitalized.

27 (11)~~(10)~~ If the court finds there is no probable cause, the proceedings against the

1 respondent shall be dismissed, and the respondent shall be released from any
2 holding.

3 (12)~~(11)~~ If upon completion of the final hearing, the court finds the respondent should
4 be involuntarily hospitalized, the court shall order the respondent hospitalized in a
5 hospital for a period not to exceed sixty (60) consecutive days from the date of the
6 court order or a period not to exceed three hundred sixty (360) consecutive days
7 from the date of the court order, whatever was the period of time that was requested
8 in the petition.

9 ➔Section 8. Sections 1 to 6 of this Act takes effect January 2, 2023.

10 ➔Section 9. The terms of the new circuit judgeships created by Sections 2 and 4
11 of this Act shall begin January 2, 2023, and elections to fill the judgeships shall be placed
12 on the ballot for the regular election held in November 2022.

13 ➔Section 10. The General Assembly requests that the additional Circuit Court
14 judgeships added in the Sixth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-Seventh Judicial
15 Circuits be designated by the Supreme Court as family court divisions.

16 ➔Section 11. The General Assembly requests that when the two District Court
17 divisions of the Fifteenth and Thirty-Eighth Judicial Districts are reduced to one District
18 Court division in Section 6 of this Act, the divisions eliminated should be the division
19 currently numbered as "Division Two." The division that is eliminated shall not appear on
20 the ballot for the November 2022 regular election.

21 ➔Section 12. For the purposes of all vacancies, primaries, regular elections, or
22 special elections of circuit judges or district judges occurring on or after January 1, 2022,
23 the circuits and districts established in Sections 1 and 5 of this Act shall be used.