

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 616

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENRY AND BARRAS AND SENATORS ALARIO AND LAFLEUR

APPROPRIATIONS: Appropriates funds for the expenses of the judiciary for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

1 AN ACT

2 To appropriate funds to defray the expenses of the Louisiana Judiciary, including the  
3 Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, District Courts, Criminal District Court of Orleans  
4 Parish, and other courts; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1.A. The sum of One Hundred Eighty-Six Million Seven Hundred Thirteen  
7 Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two No/100 (\$186,713,592.00) Dollars, or so much thereof  
8 as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of the judiciary,  
9 including the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, the District Courts, the Criminal District  
10 Court of Orleans Parish, and of the other courts.

11 B. The total amount herein appropriated is hereby allocated to provide as follows:

12 **03-8170 SUPREME COURT**

13 **Program Description:** *The Supreme Court has general supervisory jurisdiction over*  
14 *all lower courts. It may establish procedural and administrative rules not in conflict*  
15 *with law and may assign a sitting or retired judge to any court. The Supreme Court has*  
16 *sole authority to provide by rule for appointments of attorneys as temporary or ad hoc*  
17 *judges. It considers applications for writs to review individual cases, and has criminal*  
18 *and other appellate jurisdiction. The Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction*  
19 *of disciplinary proceedings against lawyers, recommendations of the Judiciary*  
20 *Commission of Louisiana for the discipline of judges, and fact questions affecting its*  
21 *appellate jurisdiction. It has inherent authority to regulate the legal profession and to*  
22 *promulgate and update the Code of Judicial Conduct. The court also provides judicial*  
23 *training through the Judicial College and works to improve the administration of*  
24 *justice.*

25 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Supreme Court of Louisiana is to protect and*  
26 *promote the rule of law, to ensure public trust, to use public resources efficiently, to*  
27 *ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence of both the bench*

1 *and the bar, and to ensure the proper administration and performance of all courts*  
2 *under its authority.*

3 **Goal:** To protect the rule of law.

4 **Objective:** To provide a reasonable opportunity for litigants to seek review in the  
5 Supreme Court of decisions made by lower tribunals.

6 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
7				
8	<i>Total Filings</i>	3,017	2,716	2,365
9	<i>Total Appeals Filed</i>	18	12	6
10	<i>Total Writs Filed</i>	2,790	2,496	2,172
11	<i>Total Dispositions Rendered</i>	2,500	2,592	2,486

12 **Goal:** To promote the rule of law.

13 **Objective:** To resolve cases in a timely manner.

14 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
15				
16	<i>Percentage of noncriminal case</i>			
17	<i>applications acted on within Supreme</i>			
18	<i>Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	94.3%	91.8%	97.1%
19	<i>Percentage of criminal case applications</i>			
20	<i>acted on within Supreme Court</i>			
21	<i>standard of 120 days of filing</i>	37%	30.7%	36.1%
22	<i>Percentage of pro se post conviction</i>			
23	<i>applications acted on within Supreme</i>			
24	<i>Court standard of 120 days of filing</i>	4.8%	2.1%	3%
25	<i>Percentage of bar disciplinary filings</i>			
26	<i>acted upon within Supreme Court</i>			
27	<i>standard of 120 days of filing</i>	95.2%	95.2%	97%
28	<i>Percentage of opinions rendered within</i>			
29	<i>Supreme Court standard of 84 days</i>			
30	<i>from argument</i>	83.2%	81.5%	75.8%

31 **Goal:** To ensure the public trust.

32 **Objective:** To facilitate public access to Supreme Court decisions.

33 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
34				
35	<i>Percentage of written opinions available</i>			
36	<i>to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

37 **Objective:** To inform the public of operations and activities.

38 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
39				
40	<i>Number of outreach programs</i>	78	58	100
41	<i>Number of media releases on court decisions</i>	73	64	66
42	<i>Number of media releases on other matters</i>	24	25	17
43	<i>Number of recipients of releases on</i>			
44	<i>court decisions</i>	1,760	1,485	1,632
45	<i>Number of recipients of releases on other</i>			
46	<i>matters</i>	4,694	3,633	4,700

47 **Objective:** To ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence of the  
48 bench.

49 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	
50				
51	<i>Average number of hours acquired</i>			
52	<i>through continuing legal education</i>			
53	<i>per judge</i>	36.36	33.59	34.25
54	<i>Number of complaints filed against</i>			
55	<i>judges and justices of the peace</i>	496	495	529
56	<i>Number of complaints against judges</i>			
57	<i>and justices of the peace resolved or</i>			
58	<i>disposed of in the calendar year</i>	526	477	601

1 **Objective:** To ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence of the  
2 bar.

3 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
4 <i>Average number of hours acquired through</i>			
5 <i>continuing legal education per lawyer</i>	15.46	14.92	15.12
6 <i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers</i>	3,038	3,040	2,950
8 <i>Number of complaints filed against lawyers</i>			
9 <i>resolved or disposed of in calendar year</i>	3,319	3,140	3,046

10 Payable out of the State General Fund (Direct):

11 01 Salaries of one (1) Chief Justice and six (6)  
12 Associate Justices of the Supreme Court,  
13 as provided by R.S. 13:102 \$ 1,100,726

14 02 Salaries and other expenses of the  
15 Supreme Court Proper and salary of  
16 the Crier of the Supreme Court \$ 10,645,162

17 03 Expenses of Judicial Administrator's  
18 Office and of the Judiciary Commission  
19 provided for in Article V, Section  
20 25 of the Constitution of Louisiana and  
21 under the provisions of R.S. 13:32 et seq.

22 A. Expenses of Judicial Administrator's Office \$ 5,220,562

23 **Program Description:** *The Judicial Administrator's Office assists the Supreme Court in the*  
24 *administration of the state court system. It staffs the Judicial Council and the Judiciary Commission of*  
25 *Louisiana. Through the Judicial Council, it performs studies and makes recommendations for the creation*  
26 *of new judgeships and for improving the administration of justice. The Judicial Administrator's Office*  
27 *provides payroll and other fiscal services to the Judiciary, including the administration of a judicial*  
28 *retirement system; support for the Supreme Court and Appellate Court human resource system;*  
29 *technological services to courts; and, manages the Trial Court Case Management Information System.*  
30 *The Judicial Administrator's Office also manages the ad hoc judgeship system, monitors cases under*  
31 *advisement, provides outreach services to state and local courts, staffs the Committee on Judicial Ethics,*  
32 *and performs numerous legal services for the Supreme Court and the Judiciary.*

33 B. Expenses of Judiciary Commission \$ 2,185,884

34 **Program Description:** *The Judiciary Commission of Louisiana is a constitutional body established under*  
35 *Article V, Section 25 of the Constitution of 1974 to accept, screen, investigate, and prosecute complaints*  
36 *of judicial misconduct. As part of its authority, it may recommend to the Supreme Court the censure,*  
37 *suspension, removal from office, or involuntary retirement of any judge for ethical misconduct.*

38 C. Court Reporters; Statistical Reporting Systems \$ 414,690

39 D. Dues to National Center for State Courts \$ 156,352

40 04 Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board,  
41 as per Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XIX \$ 3,000

42 05 Compensation and expenses of retired  
43 judges assigned under Article V,  
44 Section 5(A) of the Constitution of  
45 Louisiana, be it more or less estimated at \$ 1,706,374

1	06	Law Library of Louisiana for salaries,	
2		services, supplies, maintenance, repairs,	
3		and equipment	\$ 2,054,682
4	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Law Library of Louisiana serves the legal information needs of the state</i>		
5	<i>judiciary, and is open to members of the bar and public.</i>		
6	07	Salaries and expenses of transferred	
7		judges assigned under Article V,	
8		Section 5(A) of the Constitution,	
9		be it more or less estimated as	\$ 180,323
10	08	Retirement pay for services rendered by	
11		justices and judges of all courts, as	
12		provided by R.S. 11:1358 and	
13		R.S. 13:103	\$ 1,365,669
14	09	Pensions for widows of justices and	
15		judges of all courts, as provided by	
16		R.S. 11:1371 and R.S. 11:1381, be it	
17		more or less estimated at	\$ 1,469,984
18	10	Judicial College	\$ 288,947
19	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judicial College was established by order of the Supreme Court in 1976 to</i>		
20	<i>provide continuing legal education to Louisiana judges.</i>		
21	11	State contribution to judicial	
22		retirement provided for in Article V,	
23		Section 23 of the Constitution and	
24		R.S. 11:551 et seq., be it more or	
25		less estimated at	\$ 18,569,674
26	12	Civil commitment matters as	
27		required by R.S. 28:54	\$ 259,462
28	13	Paul M. Hebert Law Center for the expenses	
29		of storage of appellate court records	\$ 60,000
30	14	Funding for statewide operations of the	
31		Louisiana Protective Order Registry	
32		(R.S. 46:2136.2) under the Case	
33		Management Information System	\$ 1,434,013
34	15	Information Technology	\$ 1,116,030
35	16	Payable out of the State General Fund for the	
36		expenses associated with the operation of the	
37		Families in Need of Services Program (FINS)	\$ 2,503,181
38	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The mission of the FINS Assistance Program is to assist local FINS processes by</i>		
39	<i>developing and implementing a needs-based allocation formula; developing, implementing, and mandating</i>		
40	<i>the use of a uniform data system for tracking, managing, and reporting FINS informal cases; developing</i>		
41	<i>and mandating the use of programmatic standards; developing, implementing, and reporting performance</i>		
42	<i>indicators and measures; requiring and monitoring periodic fiscal reports and financial accountability;</i>		
43	<i>and, generally supervising and assisting local FINS processes in other ways.</i>		

1           17           Drug court maintenance and enhancement           \$ 18,009,755

2           **Program Description:** *Drug treatment courts, authorized in 1997 by R.S. 13:5301 through R.S. 13:5304,*  
3           *provided integrated substance abuse treatment, sanctions, and incentives with case processing to place*  
4           *low-level, nonviolent drug-involved defendants in community-based, judicially supervised rehabilitation*  
5           *programs. Clients are regularly tested and monitored for compliance with educational, employment, and*  
6           *treatment requirements set by the court.*

7           18           Court Appointed Special Advocates           \$ 7,038,020

8           **Program Description:** *The purpose of the CASA Assistance Program is to promote timely placement of*  
9           *children in need of care in permanent, safe and stable homes, in accordance with the provisions of*  
10           *Children's Code articles 424-426. Services are provided through local CASA programs which recruit,*  
11           *screen, train and supervise community advocates. Upon appointment by the trial judge, qualified*  
12           *advocates serve children by providing independent factual information to the judge, advocating for the best*  
13           *interest of the children, monitoring cases to which they have been assigned, and advising and assisting the*  
14           *judge in the determination of the best interest of the children involved.*

15          TOTAL - GENERAL FUND           \$ 75,782,490

16          19           Payable out of the State General Fund  
17                    from Statutory Dedications, Judges'  
18                    Supplemental Compensation Fund,  
19                    R. S. 13:10.3, be it more or less  
20                    estimated at   \$ 6,223,724

21           **Program Description:** *The Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund was established by the Legislature*  
22           *in 1985 to fund salary supplements and salary-related expenses to judges and commissioners. The funding*  
23           *source is a non-refundable filing fee assessed on civil filings as provided in R.S. 13:10.3.*

24          20           Payable out of the State General Fund  
25                    from Statutory Dedications, Trial Court  
26                    Case Management Information Fund, for  
27                    the Case Management Information System,  
28                    Article 887 (F) of the Code of Criminal  
29                    Procedure, be it more or less estimated at   \$ 4,183,761

30           **Program Description:** *The Case Management Information System (CMIS) was created by the Supreme*  
31           *Court in 1993 to provide a statewide information system for tracking and managing criminal, civil,*  
32           *juvenile, traffic, and appellate cases as well as protective orders. Data is received from courts statewide,*  
33           *transferred to the CMIS repository, and made available to courts and executive branch agencies.*  
34           *Additional information will also be available from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections. CMIS*  
35           *is funded from a court cost assessed on all criminal and traffic convictions as provided under*  
36           *C.Cr.P.887(F).*

37          TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND  
38                  BY STATUTORY DEDICATIONS   \$ 10,407,485

39          TOTAL SUPREME COURT   \$ 86,189,975

40          **03-8171 COURTS OF APPEAL**

41           **Program Description:** *The five courts of appeal, domiciled in Baton Rouge,*  
42           *Shreveport, Lake Charles, New Orleans, and Gretna, have supervisory jurisdiction over*  
43           *all cases arising within their respective circuits, subject to the general supervisory*  
44           *jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Each court of appeal also has appellate jurisdiction*  
45           *over all civil matters, all matters appealed from family and juvenile courts, and all*  
46           *criminal cases triable by a jury which arise within its circuit, except for those cases*  
47           *appealable directly to the Supreme Court or to the district courts.*

48           **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the appellate courts of Louisiana is to provide*  
49           *meaningful access to all who seek review under the Courts' appellate and supervisory*  
50           *jurisdiction granted by the Louisiana Constitution while protecting and promoting the*  
51           *rule of law, preserving the public trust, and using public resources efficiently.*

1       **Goal:** To protect the rule of law.  
2       **Objective:** To provide a reasonable opportunity for multi-judge review of decisions  
3       made by lower tribunals.

4       **General Performance Information:**

	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>
5			
6	2,382	2,050	2,053
7	4,973	4,325	4,048
8	6,432	5,741	5,019

9       **Goal:** To promote the rule of law.

10      **Objective:** To resolve cases expeditiously.

11      **General Performance Information:**

	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>
12			
13			
14			
15			
16	179	151	143
17	160	149	147
18	165	149	146

19      *Average number of days from lodging of the*  
20      *appeal to argument:*

21      *Time Standard = no more than 175 days.*

22	38	38	43
23	44	44	43
24	42	43	43

25      **Goal:** To preserve public trust.

26      **Objective:** To facilitate public access to the decisions of the courts of appeal.

27      **General Performance Information:**

	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>
28			
29			
30	100%	100%	100%

31      Payable out of the State General Fund:

32      01	Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges 33      and forty-eight (48) Judges of 34      the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311	\$ 7,739,935
35      02	Salaries and expenses of operation and 36      maintenance of the Court of Appeal, 37      First Circuit	\$ 10,247,908
38      03	Salaries and expenses of operation and 39      maintenance of the Court of Appeal, 40      Second Circuit	\$ 5,725,336
41      04	Salaries and expenses of operation and 42      maintenance of the Court of Appeal, 43      Third Circuit	\$ 8,778,318
44      05	Salaries and expenses of operation and 45      maintenance of the Court of Appeal, 46      Fourth Circuit	\$ 8,150,170
47      06	Salaries and expenses of operation and 48      maintenance of the Court of Appeal, 49      Fifth Circuit	<u>\$ 5,947,429</u>
50	<b>TOTAL COURTS OF APPEAL</b>	<u><u>\$ 46,589,096</u></u>

1 **03-8172 DISTRICT COURTS**

2 **Program Description:** *There are forty-one district courts in Louisiana that have general*  
3 *jurisdiction over all matters within their territorial limits, except in those judicial districts*  
4 *(the 1st, the 19th, and the 24th Judicial Districts) where family and juvenile courts have*  
5 *exclusive jurisdiction over certain types of cases and except in Orleans Parish where*  
6 *there are separate courts exercising civil, criminal, and juvenile jurisdictions,*  
7 *respectively. In certain cases, the forty-one general jurisdiction courts have concurrent*  
8 *jurisdiction with justices of the peace and parish courts. The district courts generally*  
9 *have appellate jurisdiction of criminal cases tried by city, parish, municipal, traffic, and*  
10 *mayors' courts, except in certain cases. The district courts also have appellate*  
11 *jurisdiction over justices of the peace in parishes where no parish courts exist. The Civil*  
12 *District Court of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction of all civil cases in that parish. The*  
13 *Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish has jurisdiction over all criminal cases in the*  
14 *parish. It also has general supervisory jurisdiction over the municipal and traffic courts*  
15 *in Orleans Parish. The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish has exclusive*  
16 *jurisdiction of many domestic cases in the parish. The four juvenile courts located in*  
17 *Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, and Orleans parishes have exclusive jurisdiction*  
18 *of juvenile cases in their respective parishes.*

19 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the trial courts of Louisiana is to provide access*  
20 *to justice, to meet all responsibilities in a timely and expeditious manner, to provide*  
21 *equality, fairness, and integrity in their proceedings, to maintain judicial independence*  
22 *and accountability, and to reach a fair and just result by adherence to the procedural*  
23 *and substantive law, thereby instilling trust and confidence in the public.*

24 **Goal:** To establish a more open and accessible system of justice.

25 **Objective:** To encourage responsible parties to make court facilities safe, accessible,  
26 and convenient.

27 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
28			
29			
30			
31			
	89.6%	97.9%	93.8%

32 **Objective:** To encourage all responsible public bodies and public officers to make the  
33 costs of access to the trial court's proceedings and records - whether measured in terms  
34 of money, time, or the procedures that must be followed - reasonable, fair, and  
35 affordable.

36 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
37			
38			
39			
40			
	95.8%	97.9%	97.9%

41 **Goal:** To meet all responsibilities to everyone affected by the court and its activities  
42 in a timely and expeditious manner.

43 **Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.

44 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
45			
46			
47			
48			
49			
50			
51			
52			
53			
	63	64	64
	99%	100%	100%
	91.7%	91.7%	97.9%

54 **Objective:** To enhance jury service.

55 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
56			
57			
58			
59			
	97.7%	93%	100%

1       **Goal:** To provide due process and equal protection of the law to all who have business  
2       before the court; and to demonstrate integrity in all procedures and decisions.

3       **Objective:** To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court operations  
4       as necessary.

5       **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
6			
7 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
8 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve employee</i>			
9 <i>training and development</i>	89.6%	95.8%	87.5%
10 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
11 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or implement</i>			
12 <i>technologies</i>	91.7%	95.8%	100%

13       **Goal:** To maintain judicial independence, while observing the principle of comity in  
14       its governmental relations and accountability to the public.

15       **Objective:** To inform the community of the court's structure and function.

16       **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
17			
18 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
19 <i>that their courts regularly provided public education</i>			
20 <i>and public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>	93.8%	89.6%	97.9%

21       Payable out of the State General Fund:

22       01	Salaries of one hundred ninety-one		
23	(191) District Judges as provided		
24	by R.S. 13:691	\$	26,590,676
25       02	Office and travel expenses of District		
26	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698 and		
27	R.S. 13:694, respectively	\$	1,285,250
28       03	Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of		
29	Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,		
30	as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$	1,949,055
31       04	Expenses of Judges of Civil District		
32	Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries		
33	of stenographers, clerks, law books,		
34	stationery, telephone, and like expenses		
35	as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$	80,500
36       05	Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters		
37	of the Twentieth Judicial District Court,		
38	including retirement contributions, as		
39	provided by R.S. 13:966.1	\$	116,251
40       06	Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans		
41	Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)	\$	10,000
42       07	State share of Group, Workers'		
43	Compensation, General Liability,		
44	and Property Insurance Premiums		
45	as provided by R.S.42:851	\$	7,306,821



1	08	Salaries of two (2) commissioners of	
2		the Nineteenth Judicial District and	
3		one (1) commissioner of the Fifteenth	
4		Judicial District as provided by	
5		R.S. 13:712 and R.S. 13:715,	
6		respectively	\$ 552,719
7	09	Office expenses for the Judicial	
8		Expense Fund of the Nineteenth Judicial	
9		District Court as provided by	
10		R.S. 13:711-713	\$ 480,412
11	10	Office expenses for the Judicial	
12		Expense Fund of the Fifteenth	
13		Judicial District Court as provided	
14		by R.S. 13:714-716	\$ 315,452
15	11	Law Clerk, Twentieth Judicial District	
16		Court as provided by Act 747 of 1977	\$ 50,556
17	12	For the expenses of the Judicial Expense	
18		Fund, Tenth Judicial District Court as	
19		provided by Act 57 of 2006	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
20		SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 38,772,692</u>
21	13	Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans	
22		<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans has exclusive jurisdiction</i>	
23		<i>of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of</i>	
24		<i>Orleans, if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court. The court, through its magistrate and</i>	
25		<i>with assistance from its commissioners, has the power of committing magistrates in all felony charges and</i>	
26		<i>the power to hold preliminary examinations, with authority to bail or discharge, or to hold for trial, in all</i>	
27		<i>cases before the court. The court has appellate jurisdiction of all cases tried before the Municipal Court</i>	
28		<i>of New Orleans and the Traffic Court of New Orleans and has general supervisory jurisdiction over these</i>	
29		<i>courts.</i>	
30	A.	Salaries of thirteen (13) District Judges of	
31		Criminal Court, Orleans Parish as provided	
32		by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,809,837
33	B.	Office expenses of Judges of Criminal Court,	
34		Orleans Parish as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$ 74,750
35	C.	State's share of group insurance for the personnel	
36		of Criminal Court as provided by R.S. 42:851	\$ 779,271
37	D.	Salaries of thirteen (13) minute clerks as provided	
38		by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 284,627
39	E.	Salaries of twenty-six (26) court reporters as	
40		provided by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 449,821
41	F.	Salaries of four (4) commissioners of Criminal	
42		Court, Orleans Parish, including related benefits	
43		as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 493,022
44	G.	Office and travel expenses of commissioners as	
45		provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 10,600

1	H. Salaries of four (4) minute clerks, one for each	
2	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 73,003
3	I. Salaries of four (4) court reporters, one for each	
4	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 55,034
5	J. Salaries of Judicial Administrator, and assistants,	
6	including related benefits	\$ 1,000,721
7	K. Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks	\$ 729,085
8	L. Salaries of four (4) secretaries	\$ 211,288
9	M. Sanity Commissions	\$ 200,000
10	N. Board of Jury Commissioners	\$ 430,381
11	SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 6,601,440</u>
12	14 Juvenile and Family Court Judges	
13	A. Salaries of fourteen (14) Juvenile Court	
14	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,949,055
15	B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court Judges	
16	as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 556,873
17	C. Office and travel expenses of Juvenile and Family	
18	Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698	
19	and R.S. 13:694, respectively	<u>\$ 103,500</u>
20	SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 2,609,428</u>
21	TOTAL DISTRICT COURTS	<u><u>\$ 47,983,560</u></u>

22 **03-8173 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES AS REQUIRED**  
23 **BY STATUTE**

24 **Program Description:** *The category includes forty-seven city courts, one municipal*  
25 *court (New Orleans), one traffic court (New Orleans), and one parish court (Ascension*  
26 *Parish).*

27 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the city and parish courts of Louisiana is to provide*  
28 *access to justice, to meet all responsibilities in a timely and expeditious manner, to*  
29 *provide equality, fairness and integrity in their proceedings, to maintain judicial*  
30 *independence and accountability, and to reach a fair and just result by adherence to the*  
31 *procedural and substantive law, thereby instilling trust and confidence in the public.*

32 **Goal:** To establish a more open and accessible system of justice.

33 **Objective:** To encourage all responsible public bodies and public officers to make the  
34 costs of access to the court's proceedings and records - whether measured in terms of  
35 money, time, or the procedures that must be followed - reasonable, fair, and affordable.

36 **General Performance Information:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
37 <i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
38 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to assist pro</i>			
39 <i>se litigants</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>96.2%</i>

41 **Goal:** To meet all responsibilities to everyone affected by the court and its  
42 activities in a timely and expeditious manner.

43 **Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.

1	<b>General Performance Information:</b>			
2		<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
3	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges</i>			
4	<i>indicating that their courts had taken steps within</i>			
5	<i>FY 2014-2015 to reduce delays and improve the</i>			
6	<i>timeliness of case processing</i>	84.3%	84.6%	88.5%
7	<b>Goal:</b> To maintain judicial independence, while observing the principle of comity in			
8	its governmental relations and accountability to the public.			
9	<b>Objective:</b> To inform the community of the court's structure and function.			
10	<b>General Performance Information:</b>			
11		<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
12	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
13	<i>that their courts regularly provided public education and</i>			
14	<i>public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>	92.2%	92.3%	92.3%
15	<b>Objective:</b> To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court			
16	operations as necessary.			
17	<b>General Performance Information:</b>			
18		<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
19	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
20	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve</i>			
21	<i>employee training and development</i>	96.1%	94.2%	98.1%
22	<i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
23	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or</i>			
24	<i>implement technologies</i>	86.3%	92.3%	96.2%
25	Payable out of the State General Fund:			
26	01	Salaries of sixty (60) City Court		
27		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875		\$ 2,697,015
28	02	Salaries of four (4) Municipal, four (4)		
29		Traffic and one (1) Parish Court		
30		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:2492,		
31		13:2501.1, and 13:2563.5, respectively		<u>\$ 435,011</u>
32	TOTAL OTHER COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE			<u>\$ 3,132,026</u>
33	<b>03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT</b>			
34	<b>REQUIRED BY STATUTE</b>			
35	Payable out of the State General Fund:			
36	01	Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective		
37		Care Monitoring Program		\$ 596,209
38	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The program tracks and maintains child abuse and neglect cases in the Orleans</i>			
39	<i>Parish Juvenile Court. It also provides assistance in support of the Families in Need of Services Program.</i>			
40	02	Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Reporters		\$ 88,387
41	03	For the expenses of the Judges'		
42		Assistance Program		<u>\$ 63,486</u>
43	<b>Program Description:</b> <i>The Judges' Assistance Program provides counseling and other assistance to judges</i>			
44	<i>with substance abuse problems.</i>			
45	TOTAL OTHER COURTS NOT REQUIRED BY STATUTE			<u>\$ 748,082</u>

1 **03-8175 NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES**

2 Payable out of the State General Fund:

3 01 Legal representation of children in child protection cases \$ 2,070,853

4 **Program Description:** *As recommended by the Task Force on Legal representation*  
5 *in Child Protection Cases and at the request of the Division of Administration, in*  
6 *order to advance the administration of justice, the Supreme Court administers*  
7 *funding to provide qualified legal representation for children in child protection*  
8 *cases as required to fulfill the state's statutory responsibility.*

9 TOTAL NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES \$ 2,070,853

10 Section 2.A. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or her duly authorized and  
11 appointed agent, shall warrant the state treasurer for the allocations herein provided, or for  
12 so much thereof as may be necessary. The aforesaid warrant shall be paid out of the state  
13 general fund, and the state treasurer shall pay said warrant by preference over all other  
14 warrants, except warrants for the salaries of constitutional officers of the state and warrants  
15 for expenses of the legislature, which shall be concurrent with the warrant provided by this  
16 Act.

17 B. The funds drawn as provided herein shall be deposited in the name of the judiciary in  
18 an approved bank that has been selected by the Supreme Court and is located in the state.

19 C. Any funds herein allocated to the judiciary, any portion of the funds previously  
20 appropriated to the judiciary, other revenue of the judiciary or its agencies, and interest  
21 earnings are hereby appropriated and may be used to defray the expenses of the judiciary;  
22 however, all funds remaining unexpended or unencumbered shall be returnable to the state  
23 general fund on or before September 1, 2017.

24 D. For Fiscal Year 2016-2017, any surpluses occurring in the appropriations made in this  
25 Act may be transferred from one agency or line-item to another during the fiscal year in  
26 accordance with the rules of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board, or as approved by the  
27 Supreme Court.

28 E. The adjustment to be made in the salaries of judicial employees and the number of  
29 authorized positions of the judiciary shall be as decided by the judicial agency affected,  
30 subject to the approval of the Judicial Budgetary Control Board or as approved by the  
31 Supreme Court.

1 F. The program descriptions, general performance information and indicators, objectives,  
2 goals, and mission statements contained in this Act are not part of the law and are not enacted  
3 into law by virtue of their inclusion in this Act. The missions, goals, and objectives contained  
4 in the Act are derived from performance standards established by Section 10 of Part G  
5 General Administrative Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

6 G. The inclusion in this Act of staff salaries and benefits for lower court or other judicial  
7 branch agency employees shall not be deemed to create or impose any obligation upon the  
8 State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary  
9 Control Board, or the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office relative to the  
10 administration of pay, retirement or other benefits to any such employees. Accordingly, the  
11 State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary  
12 Control Board, and the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office are not to be  
13 considered the "employer" or "employing agency" of lower court or other judicial agency  
14 employees whose staff salaries and other benefits are included in this Act.

15 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016; if vetoed by the governor  
16 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016,  
17 or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 616 Original

2016 Regular Session

Henry

**Abstract:** Appropriates funds for FY 2016-2017 for expenses of the La. Judiciary, including the supreme court, courts of appeal, district courts, Criminal Court of Orleans Parish, juvenile and family courts, and other courts.

Appropriates funds for FY 2016-2017 for the ordinary operating expenses of the judicial branch of government with total funding of \$186,713,592 from the following sources: \$176,306,107 out of the State General Fund (Direct); and, \$10,407,485 from statutory dedications out of the Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund and the Trial Court Case Management Fund.

Funding for the ordinary operating expenses of the judicial branch of government is provided as follows:

(1)	Louisiana Supreme Court	\$ 86,189,975
(2)	Courts of Appeal	46,589,096
(3)	District Courts	38,772,692
(4)	Criminal Court, Parish of Orleans	6,601,440
(5)	Juvenile and Family Courts	2,609,428
(6)	Other Courts (Required by Statute)	3,132,026
(7)	Other Courts (Not Required by Statute)	748,082
(8)	Non-Judicial State Expenses	<u>2,070,853</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$186,713,592</u>

Effective July 1, 2016.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

In accordance with R.S. 39:51(D), the following represents a comparative statement for each Court and program. The operating budget for FY 2015-2016 is compared to the appropriations for FY 2016-2017 as contained in the original bill.

Courts and Programs	Operating Budget	Appropriation Request
	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017
Supreme Court		
Total Supreme Court	\$71,822,985	\$75,782,490
Courts of Appeal		
Total Courts of Appeal	\$45,429,313	\$46,589,096
District Courts		
Total District Courts	\$46,269,302	\$47,983,560
Other Courts		
Total Other Courts	\$3,062,051	\$3,132,026
Other Programs		
Total Other Programs	\$718,340	\$748,082
Non-Judicial State Expenses		
Total State Expenses	<u>\$2,060,276</u>	<u>\$2,070,853</u>
Total State General Fund and Interagency Transfer All Line Items	<u>\$169,362,267</u>	<u>\$176,306,107</u>
Total Statutory Dedications	<u>\$10,240,925</u>	<u>\$10,407,485</u>
Total Funding	<u>\$179,603,192</u>	<u>\$186,713,592</u>