

ACT No. 67

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 616

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENRY AND BARRAS AND SENATORS ALARIO AND LAFLEUR

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AN ACT

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

03-8170 SUPREME COURT

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

1 **Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Supreme Court of Louisiana is to protect*
 2 *and promote the rule of law, to ensure public trust, to use public resources*
 3 *efficiently, to ensure the highest professional conduct, integrity, and competence*
 4 *of both the bench and the bar, and to ensure the proper administration and*
 5 *performance of all courts under its authority.*

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

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

9 **General Performance Information:**

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

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

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

17 **General Performance Information:**

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

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

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

36 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
37 <i>Percentage of written opinions available</i>			
38 <i>to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

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

41 **General Performance Information:**

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

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

52 **General Performance Information:**

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

1	06	Law Library of Louisiana for salaries,	
2		services, supplies, maintenance, repairs,	
3		and equipment	\$ 2,054,682
4	Program Description: <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	Program Description: <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	Program Description: <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	\$ 12,609,755
2		Program Description: <i>Drug treatment courts, authorized in 1997 by R.S. 13:5301 through R.S. 13:5304, provided integrated substance abuse treatment, sanctions, and incentives with case processing to place</i>	
3		<i>low-level, nonviolent drug-involved defendants in community-based, judicially supervised rehabilitation</i>	
4		<i>programs. Clients are regularly tested and monitored for compliance with educational, employment, and</i>	
5		<i>treatment requirements set by the court.</i>	
6			
7	18	Court Appointed Special Advocates	<u>\$ 3,045,170</u>
8		Program Description: <i>The purpose of the CASA Assistance Program is to promote timely placement of</i>	
9		<i>children in need of care in permanent, safe and stable homes, in accordance with the provisions of</i>	
10		<i>Children's Code articles 424-426. Services are provided through local CASA programs which recruit,</i>	
11		<i>screen, train and supervise community advocates. Upon appointment by the trial judge, qualified</i>	
12		<i>advocates serve children by providing independent factual information to the judge, advocating for the best</i>	
13		<i>interest of the children, monitoring cases to which they have been assigned, and advising and assisting the</i>	
14		<i>judge in the determination of the best interest of the children involved.</i>	
15	TOTAL - GENERAL FUND		<u>\$ 66,389,640</u>
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: <i>The Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund was established by the Legislature</i>	
22		<i>in 1985 to fund salary supplements and salary-related expenses to judges and commissioners. The funding</i>	
23		<i>source is a non-refundable filing fee assessed on civil filings as provided in R.S. 13:10.3.</i>	
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	<u>\$ 4,183,761</u>
30		Program Description: <i>The Case Management Information System (CMIS) was created by the Supreme</i>	
31		<i>Court in 1993 to provide a statewide information system for tracking and managing criminal, civil,</i>	
32		<i>juvenile, traffic, and appellate cases as well as protective orders. Data is received from courts statewide,</i>	
33		<i>transferred to the CMIS repository, and made available to courts and executive branch agencies.</i>	
34		<i>Additional information will also be available from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections. CMIS</i>	
35		<i>is funded from a court cost assessed on all criminal and traffic convictions as provided under</i>	
36		<i>C.Cr.P.887(F).</i>	
37	TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND		
38	BY STATUTORY DEDICATIONS		<u>\$ 10,407,485</u>
39	21	Drug court maintenance and enhancement, payable	
40		out of the State General Fund through Interagency	
41		Transfers from the Department of Children and	
42		Family Services	\$ 5,400,000
43	22	Court Appointed Special Advocates, payable out of	
44		the State General Fund through Interagency Transfers	
45		from the Department of Children and Family	
46		Services	<u>\$ 3,992,850</u>
47	TOTAL - STATE GENERAL FUND		
48	THROUGH INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS		<u>\$ 9,392,850</u>
49	TOTAL SUPREME COURT		<u>\$ 86,189,975</u>

1 **03-8171 COURTS OF APPEAL**

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

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

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

16 **Objective:** To provide a reasonable opportunity for multi-judge review of
 17 decisions made by lower tribunals.

18 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
19 <i>Total appeals filed</i>	2,382	2,050	2,053
20 <i>Total writs filed</i>	4,973	4,325	4,048
21 <i>Total dispositions rendered</i>	6,432	5,741	5,019

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

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

24 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
25 <i>Average number of days from lodging of the</i>			
26 <i>appeal to argument:</i>			
27 <i>Time Standard = no more than 175 days.</i>			
28 <i>Criminal cases</i>	179	151	143
29 <i>Civil Cases</i>	160	149	147
30 <i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	165	149	146

31 *Average number of days from argument to*

32 *rendering of the opinion:*

33 *Time Standard = no more than 70 days.*

34 <i>Criminal cases</i>	38	38	43
35 <i>Civil cases</i>	44	44	43
36 <i>Median number of days for all cases</i>	42	43	43

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

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

39 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
40 <i>Percentage of written opinions available</i>			
41 <i>to the public within 5 days of decision</i>	100%	100%	100%

42 Payable out of the State General Fund:

43 01	Salaries of five (5) Chief Judges and forty-eight (48) Judges of the Courts of Appeal, R.S. 13:311	\$ 7,739,935
44 02	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, First Circuit	\$ 10,247,908
45 03	Salaries and expenses of operation and maintenance of the Court of Appeal, Second Circuit	\$ 5,725,336

1	04	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
2		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
3		Third Circuit	\$ 8,778,318
4	05	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
5		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
6		Fourth Circuit	\$ 8,150,170
7	06	Salaries and expenses of operation and	
8		maintenance of the Court of Appeal,	
9		Fifth Circuit	\$ 5,947,429
10	TOTAL COURTS OF APPEAL		<u>\$ 46,589,096</u>

11 **03-8172 DISTRICT COURTS**

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

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

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

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

39 **General Performance Information:**

40		2013	2014	2015
41	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
42	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve compliance with</i>			
43	<i>the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</i>	<i>89.6%</i>	<i>97.9%</i>	<i>93.8%</i>

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

48 **General Performance Information:**

49		2013	2014	2015
50	<i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
51	<i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to assist self-represented</i>			
52	<i>litigants</i>	<i>95.8%</i>	<i>97.9%</i>	<i>97.9%</i>

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

1 **Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.
 2 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
3			
4 <i>Number of parishes reporting criminal disposition</i>			
5 <i>data to CMIS</i>	63	64	64
6 <i>Percentage of parishes reporting criminal disposition</i>			
7 <i>data to CMIS</i>	99%	100%	100%
8 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges</i>			
9 <i>indicating that their courts had taken steps within</i>			
10 <i>FY 2014-2015 to reduce delays and improve the</i>			
11 <i>timeliness of case processing</i>	91.7%	91.7%	97.9%

12 **Objective:** To enhance jury service.
 13 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
14			
15 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
16 <i>that their court had taken steps within FY 2014-2015</i>			
17 <i>to make jury service more convenient or effective</i>	97.7%	93%	100%

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

20 **Objective:** To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court
 21 operations as necessary.
 22 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
23			
24 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
25 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve employee</i>			
26 <i>training and development</i>	89.6%	95.8%	87.5%
27 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
28 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or implement</i>			
29 <i>technologies</i>	91.7%	95.8%	100%

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

32 **Objective:** To inform the community of the court's structure and function.
 33 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
34			
35 <i>Percentage of surveyed district court chief judges indicating</i>			
36 <i>that their courts regularly provided public education</i>			
37 <i>and public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>	93.8%	89.6%	97.9%

38 Payable out of the State General Fund:

39	01	Salaries of one hundred ninety-one	
40		(191) District Judges as provided	
41		by R.S. 13:691	\$ 26,590,676
42	02	Office and travel expenses of District	
43		Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698 and	
44		R.S. 13:694, respectively	\$ 1,285,250
45	03	Salaries of fourteen (14) Judges of	
46		Civil District Court, Orleans Parish,	
47		as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,949,055
48	04	Expenses of Judges of Civil District	
49		Court, Parish of Orleans, for salaries	
50		of stenographers, clerks, law books,	
51		stationery, telephone, and like expenses	
52		as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$ 80,500
53	05	Salaries of two (2) Court Reporters	
54		of the Twentieth Judicial District Court,	
55		including retirement contributions, as	
56		provided by R.S. 13:966.1	\$ 116,251

1	06	Clerk of Civil District Court, Orleans	
2		Parish, as provided by R.S. 13:1212(A)	\$ 10,000
3	07	State share of Group, Workers'	
4		Compensation, General Liability,	
5		and Property Insurance Premiums	
6		as provided by R.S.42:851	\$ 7,306,821
7	08	Salaries of two (2) commissioners of	
8		the Nineteenth Judicial District and	
9		one (1) commissioner of the Fifteenth	
10		Judicial District as provided by	
11		R.S. 13:712 and R.S. 13:715,	
12		respectively	\$ 552,719
13	09	Office expenses for the Judicial	
14		Expense Fund of the Nineteenth Judicial	
15		District Court as provided by	
16		R.S. 13:711-713	\$ 480,412
17	10	Office expenses for the Judicial	
18		Expense Fund of the Fifteenth	
19		Judicial District Court as provided	
20		by R.S. 13:714-716	\$ 315,452
21	11	Law Clerk, Twentieth Judicial District	
22		Court as provided by Act 747 of 1977	\$ 50,556
23	12	For the expenses of the Judicial Expense	
24		Fund, Tenth Judicial District Court as	
25		provided by Act 57 of 2006	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
26		SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 38,772,692</u>
27	13	Criminal Court - Parish of Orleans	
28		Program Description: <i>The Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans has exclusive jurisdiction</i>	
29		<i>of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of</i>	
30		<i>Orleans, if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court. The court, through its magistrate and</i>	
31		<i>with assistance from its commissioners, has the power of committing magistrates in all felony charges and</i>	
32		<i>the power to hold preliminary examinations, with authority to bail or discharge, or to hold for trial, in all</i>	
33		<i>cases before the court. The court has appellate jurisdiction of all cases tried before the Municipal Court</i>	
34		<i>of New Orleans and the Traffic Court of New Orleans and has general supervisory jurisdiction over these</i>	
35		<i>courts.</i>	
36	A.	Salaries of thirteen (13) District Judges of	
37		Criminal Court, Orleans Parish as provided	
38		by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,809,837
39	B.	Office expenses of Judges of Criminal Court,	
40		Orleans Parish as provided by R.S. 13:698	\$ 74,750
41	C.	State's share of group insurance for the personnel	
42		of Criminal Court as provided by R.S. 42:851	\$ 779,271
43	D.	Salaries of thirteen (13) minute clerks as provided	
44		by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 284,627
45	E.	Salaries of twenty-six (26) court reporters as	
46		provided by R.S. 13:1373.1	\$ 449,821

1	F. Salaries of four (4) commissioners of Criminal	
2	Court, Orleans Parish, including related benefits	
3	as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 493,022
4	G. Office and travel expenses of commissioners as	
5	provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 10,600
6	H. Salaries of four (4) minute clerks, one for each	
7	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 73,003
8	I. Salaries of four (4) court reporters, one for each	
9	commissioner as provided by R.S. 13:1347	\$ 55,034
10	J. Salaries of Judicial Administrator, and assistants,	
11	including related benefits	\$ 1,000,721
12	K. Salaries of thirteen (13) law clerks	\$ 729,085
13	L. Salaries of four (4) secretaries	\$ 211,288
14	M. Sanity Commissions	\$ 200,000
15	N. Board of Jury Commissioners	\$ <u>430,381</u>
16	SUBTOTAL	\$ <u>6,601,440</u>
17	14 Juvenile and Family Court Judges	
18	A. Salaries of fourteen (14) Juvenile Court	
19	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 1,949,055
20	B. Salaries of four (4) Family Court Judges	
21	as provided by R.S. 13:691	\$ 556,873
22	C. Office and travel expenses of Juvenile and Family	
23	Court Judges as provided by R.S. 13:698	
24	and R.S. 13:694, respectively	\$ <u>103,500</u>
25	SUBTOTAL	\$ <u>2,609,428</u>
26	TOTAL DISTRICT COURTS	\$ <u><u>47,983,560</u></u>

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

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

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

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

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

5 **General Performance Information:**

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

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

12 **Objective:** To encourage timely case management and processing.
 13 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
14 <i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges</i>			
15 <i>indicating that their courts had taken steps within</i>			
16 <i>FY 2014-2015 to reduce delays and improve the</i>			
17 <i>timeliness of case processing</i>	84.3%	84.6%	88.5%

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

21 **Objective:** To inform the community of the court's structure and function.
 22 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
23 <i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
24 <i>that their courts regularly provided public education and</i>			
25 <i>public outreach services in FY 2014-2015</i>	92.2%	92.3%	92.3%

27 **Objective:** To recognize new conditions or emerging events and to adjust court
 28 operations as necessary.
 29 **General Performance Information:**

	2013	2014	2015
30 <i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
31 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to improve</i>			
32 <i>employee training and development</i>	96.1%	94.2%	98.1%
33 <i>Percentage of surveyed city/parish court chief judges indicating</i>			
34 <i>actions taken in FY 2014-2015 to install or</i>			
35 <i>implement technologies</i>	86.3%	92.3%	96.2%

37 Payable out of the State General Fund:

38 01	Salaries of sixty (60) City Court		
39	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:1875		\$ 2,697,015
40 02	Salaries of four (4) Municipal, four (4)		
41	Traffic and one (1) Parish Court		
42	Judges as provided by R.S. 13:2492,		
43	13:2501.1, and 13:2563.5, respectively		<u>\$ 435,011</u>
44	TOTAL OTHER COURTS REQUIRED BY STATUTE		<u>\$ 3,132,026</u>

46 **03-8174 OTHER COURTS - SALARIES AND OFFICE EXPENSES NOT**
 47 **REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

48 Payable out of the State General Fund:

49 01	Orleans Parish Juvenile Protective		
50	Care Monitoring Program		\$ 596,209

51 **Program Description:** *The program tracks and maintains child abuse and neglect cases in the Orleans*
 52 *Parish Juvenile Court. It also provides assistance in support of the Families in Need of Services Program.*

1	02	Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Reporters	\$	88,387
2	03	For the expenses of the Judges'		
3		Assistance Program	\$	<u>63,486</u>

4 **Program Description:** *The Judges' Assistance Program provides counseling and other assistance to*
 5 *judges with substance abuse problems.*

6	TOTAL OTHER COURTS NOT REQUIRED BY STATUTE	\$	<u>748,082</u>
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7 **03-8175 NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES**

8 Payable out of the State General Fund:

9	01	Legal representation of children in child protection cases	\$	<u>2,070,853</u>
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10 **Program Description:** *As recommended by the Task Force on Legal representation*
 11 *in Child Protection Cases and at the request of the Division of Administration, in*
 12 *order to advance the administration of justice, the Supreme Court administers*
 13 *funding to provide qualified legal representation for children in child protection*
 14 *cases as required to fulfill the state's statutory responsibility.*

15	TOTAL NON-JUDICIAL STATE EXPENSES	\$	<u>2,070,853</u>
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16 Section 2. The appropriations, and the allocations of such appropriations, from the State
 17 General Fund (Direct) contained in Section 1 of this Act shall be reduced by a total amount
 18 of Twenty-Three Million Fifty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Forty and No/100
 19 (\$23,058,240.00) Dollars, pursuant to a plan adopted by the Judicial Budgetary Control
 20 Board or as approved by the Louisiana Supreme Court. Provided, however, that such
 21 adopted plan shall not impact the funding for legal representation of children in child
 22 protection cases.

23 Section 3.A. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or her duly authorized and
 24 appointed agent, shall warrant the state treasurer for the allocations herein provided, or for
 25 so much thereof as may be necessary. The aforesaid warrant shall be paid out of the state
 26 general fund, and the state treasurer shall pay said warrant by preference over all other
 27 warrants, except warrants for the salaries of constitutional officers of the state and warrants
 28 for expenses of the legislature, which shall be concurrent with the warrant provided by this
 29 Act.

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

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

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

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

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

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

19 G. The inclusion in this Act of staff salaries and benefits for lower court or other judicial
20 branch agency employees shall not be deemed to create or impose any obligation upon the
21 State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary
22 Control Board, or the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office relative to the
23 administration of pay, retirement or other benefits to any such employees. Accordingly, the
24 State of Louisiana Judicial Branch, the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the Judicial Budgetary
25 Control Board, and the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office are not to be
26 considered the "employer" or "employing agency" of lower court or other judicial agency
27 employees whose staff salaries and other benefits are included in this Act.

1 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016; if vetoed by the
2 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
3 July 1, 2016, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____