

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL NO. 364

By: Smith of the Senate

and

Vaughn (Ray) of the House

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 1991, Sections 22, 92.11, 92.15, 95.6, and 126, which relate to judicial administrative districts, district court judicial districts, assignment and transfer of cases and trial court administrators; changing composition of districts; deleting certain requirement; providing for certain assignment of certain judges; conforming language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 22, is amended to read as follows:

Section 22. The state is hereby divided into judicial administrative districts as follows:

1. Northeastern. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Ten (10), Eleven (11), Twelve (12), and Thirteen (13).
2. Southeastern. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Sixteen (16), Seventeen (17), Nineteen (19), and Twenty-five (25).
3. Oklahoma-Canadian Counties. District Court Judicial ~~District~~ Districts, ~~Number~~ Numbers Seven (7) and Twenty-six (26).
4. Northwest-Panhandle. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers One (1), Two (2), and Four (4).
5. South-Central. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Twenty (20), Twenty-one (21), and Twenty-two (22).
6. ~~Tulsa-Pawnee Counties~~ County. District Court Judicial District, Number Fourteen (14).
7. East-Central. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Fifteen (15), Eighteen (18), and Twenty-four (24).

8. North-Central. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Eight (8), Nine (9), and Twenty-three (23).

9. Southwestern. District Court Judicial Districts, Numbers Three (3), Five (5), and Six (6).

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 92.11, is amended to read as follows:

Section 92.11 District No. 10. The ~~county~~ counties of Osage and Pawnee. Said district shall have one district judge to be nominated and elected at large.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 92.15, is amended to read as follows:

Section 92.15 District No. 14. The ~~counties~~ county of Tulsa and Pawnee. Said district shall have thirteen (13) district judges to be nominated ~~as follows: Candidates for office Nos. 1 through 4 and 6 through 13 to be nominated from and legal residents of Tulsa County, and a candidate for office No. 5 to be nominated from and a legal resident of Pawnee County, all of whom shall be and~~ elected at large.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 95.6, is amended to read as follows:

Section 95.6 ~~Where not inconsistent with the rules of the Supreme Court or of the Presiding Judge of the judicial administrative district, if any are promulgated, the~~ The Judges in a judicial district may adopt practices in regard to the assignment and transfer of cases that will facilitate their disposition, and nothing herein shall prevent a Judge from transferring a case to another Judge who has consented to such transfer.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 95.9 of Title 20, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Chief Judge of a judicial district may temporarily assign an associate district judge or a special judge to another county within the judicial district to hear any matter to which the associate district judge or special judge may be assigned.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 126, is amended to read as follows:

Section 126. A. There are authorized to be appointed, two trial court administrators, one for the Oklahoma-Canadian Counties Judicial Administrative District and one for the ~~Tulsa-Pawnee Counties~~ County Judicial Administrative District. The duties of a trial court administrator shall be to assist the presiding judge of the judicial administrative district in the performance of his administrative duties.

B. A trial court administrator shall be selected by the presiding judge of the judicial administrative district in which he is to be employed, subject to confirmation by a majority of the district and associate district judges in the judicial administrative district. A trial court administrator shall serve at the pleasure of a majority of the district and associate district judges in the judicial administrative district.

C. To be eligible for appointment as a trial court administrator, a person shall possess at least one of the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be an attorney licensed to practice law in this state;
2. Have a bachelor's degree in court management, or an equivalent degree; or
3. Have at least ten (10) years' experience in management with substantial supervisory responsibility; and
4. Be a graduate of the Institute for Court Management.

SECTION 7. This act shall become effective August 1, 1993.

SECTION 8. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-1-1194 KS