1 SENATE FLOOR VERSION February 13, 2024 AS AMENDED 2 SENATE BILL NO. 1697 3 By: Dahm and Bullard 4 5 An Act relating to the Administrative Director of the 6 Courts; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section 16.11, which relates to annual reports; requiring electronic 7 submission of annual report to Legislature; specifying information required for inclusion in 8 certain reports; requiring submission of copies of 9 certain written and electronic communications; establishing certification requirements for certain reports; updating statutory language; and declaring 10 an emergency. 11 12 13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: SECTION 1. 20 O.S. 2021, Section 16.11, is AMENDATORY 14 amended to read as follows: 15 Section 16.11. A. The Administrative Director of the Courts is 16 requested to shall submit a report electronically to the Legislature 17 by January 15 of each year commencing in January, 1970 (and in each 18 January thereafter), on the following subjects: 19 (a) 1. Whether or not the boundaries of the district court 20 judicial districts should be changed. If a change is recommended, 21 the report should indicate the counties that should be included in 22 each district-; 23

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- 1 (b) 2. The number of district judges and associate district judges that should be authorized for each judicial district;
 - $\frac{\text{(c)}}{3.}$ If the formula for the number of special judges to be allowed to each judicial administrative district should be changed.;
 - $\frac{\text{(d)}}{4.}$ The case load pending in each district court judicial district.;
 - (e) 5. The number of cases heard on their merits by each judge of the district court during the preceding year \div ; and
 - (f) 6. In making the above report, said the Administrative Director shall, along with whatever other criteria he uses used in making the report, consider the area involved in the judicial district and the distances involved between the places where court is held in said the district.
 - B. In addition to the report required by subsection A of this section, the Administrative Director of the Courts shall submit a report electronically to the Legislature by October 15 of each year that contains the following information from the prior year:
 - 1. A list of each case in which the Supreme Court or the Court of Civil Appeals considered a challenge to the constitutionality of or invalidated a statute passed by the Legislature. For each such case, the report shall include the case name, case number, statute challenged or invalidated, and a concise statement of the holding of the Court;

1	2. A detailed accounting of the caseload of the Supreme Court,
2	the Court of Civil Appeals, and the Court of Criminal Appeals,
3	including the total number of cases appealed to each Court, the
4	number of opinions issued, the number of cases pending before each
5	Court as of the date of the report, and the number of opinions

- 3. A list of each case decided by the Supreme Court in which a special justice took part in the decision. For each such case, the report shall include the case name, case number, special justice, and a concise statement of the holding of the Court;
- 4. A report detailing the management of the Judicial Nominating

 Commission including expenses incurred supporting the Commission,

 all meetings of the Commission and the matters considered at each

 meeting, judicial vacancies for which the Commission submitted

 nominees to the Governor, and copies of all written or electronic

 communications between employees of the Administrative Office of the

 Courts and Justices of the Supreme Court regarding the Judicial

 Nominating Commission;
- 5. A list of each instance in which a member of the Judicial

 Nominating Commission recused or was disqualified from participating

 in the nomination process to fill a judicial vacancy. For each such

 instance, the report shall include the name of the Commissioner, the

 vacancy for which the Commissioner recused or was disqualified, and

 the reason for the recusal or disqualification; and

authored by each justice or judge;

1	6. Any other information the Administrative Director of the
2	Courts believes would assist the Legislature in conducting oversight
3	of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the courts of this
4	state.
5	C. The Administrative Director of the Courts shall certify
6	under oath that the report described in subsection B of this section
7	is true to the best of his or her knowledge and information, that
8	the report contains no material misrepresentations or omissions, and
9	that the report was prepared after the exercise of reasonable
10	diligence to obtain the information required by this section.
11	SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
12	of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
13	declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
14	be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
15	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY February 13, 2024 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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