

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB2771
Version:	FULLPCS2
Request Number:	13772
Author:	Rep. Caldwell (Trey)
Date:	5/19/2025
Impact:	AOC: \$800,338/yr

Research Analysis

The second proposed committee substitute for H2771 increases the judges in various judicial districts across the state.

For the Oklahoma-Canadian Counties Judicial Administrative District, the number of special judges is increases from one to two beginning July 1, 2025.

For District Court Judicial District No. 7 (Oklahoma County), the number of district judges is increased from 15 to 16 starting with the 2026 election cycle. The additional judge for the 16th seat will be elected at-large.

For District Court Judicial District No. 26 (Canadian County), the number of district judges is increased from two to three starting with the 2026 election cycle. All three judges in District No. 26 will be elected at large.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The FULLPCS2 to HB2771 adds a total of 3 new special judges throughout various judicial districts. Officials with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) have provided the following information:

District Courts-219
New Judges for Oklahoma and Canadian Counties
Effective July 1, 2025

	Annual Salary	Annual Benefits	Salary and Benefits	Number Needed	Total Cost
District Judge	\$ 167,703	\$ 73,010	\$ 240,713	-	\$ -
Special Judges	141,651	65,286	206,937	2	413,874
Court Reporters	53,000	62,356	115,356	2	230,712
Secretary Bailiffs	42,000	35,876	77,876	2	155,752
					\$ 800,338

Notes:

- Judges benefit cost includes Iron Wall 360 subscription.
- Court Reporter benefit cost includes longevity, equipment allowance, and certificates.
- Secretary Bailiff benefit cost includes longevity.

Therefore, in its current form, the AOC would incur a cost of \$800,338 annually to administer salary and benefits for the new judges and additional personnel, and the agency would seek additional funding to defray these costs.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.