



## 1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 341

April 28, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives COGGS, L. YOUNG, MORRIS-TATUM, WILLIAMS, RILEY and TURNER, cosponsored by Senators MOORE and GEORGE. Referred to Committee on Elections and Constitutional Law.

1     **AN ACT to renumber and amend** 752.04; **to amend** 753.06 (1) (a); and **to create**  
2             752.04 (2) and 753.015 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating judicial  
3             subdistricts in Milwaukee County and adding circuit court branches in  
4             Milwaukee County.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, court of appeals judges are elected in each court of appeals district on an at-large basis for 6-year terms. Current law requires those judges to reside in the districts in which they were elected. Under this bill, court of appeals judges elected in district I (Milwaukee County) are elected in 4 appellate subdistricts consisting of specified Milwaukee County supervisory districts. The bill requires those judges to reside in the subdistricts in which they were elected.

Under current law, circuit judges are elected in each circuit on an at-large basis for 6-year terms. Current law requires those judges to reside in the circuits in which they were elected. This bill adds 4 branches to the Milwaukee County circuit, bringing the number of branches to 50. Under this bill, circuit judges elected in the 1st judicial administrative district (Milwaukee County) are elected in 25 judicial subdistricts consisting of the Milwaukee County supervisory districts. The bill requires those judges to reside in the subdistricts in which they were elected.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

5             **SECTION 1.** 752.04 of the statutes is renumbered 752.04 (1) and amended to  
6             read:

1           752.04 (1) ~~Court~~ Except as provided in sub. (2), court of appeals judges shall  
2 be elected by district on an at-large basis for terms of 6 years. Terms shall commence  
3 on August 1 next succeeding each election and shall terminate on July 31. A court  
4 of appeals judge shall reside within the district in which he or she is elected. A court  
5 of appeals judge elected under sub. (2) shall reside within the subdistrict in which  
6 he or she is elected. Only one court of appeals judge may be elected in a district in  
7 any year, except that in district I only one court of appeals judge may be elected in  
8 a subdistrict in any year.

9           **SECTION 2.** 752.04 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

10           752.04 (2) In district I, elections shall be conducted in 4 appellate subdistricts.  
11 The 1st appellate subdistrict shall consist of the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 7th, 10th and 13th  
12 Milwaukee County supervisory districts, plus all parts of the 16th Milwaukee  
13 County supervisory district between Vliet Street on the north and Wisconsin Avenue  
14 on the south. The 2nd appellate subdistrict shall consist of the 3rd, 6th, 9th, 15th,  
15 18th and 25th Milwaukee County supervisory districts, plus all parts of the 16th  
16 Milwaukee County supervisory district north of Vliet Street. The 3rd appellate  
17 subdistrict shall consist of the 4th, 8th, 12th, 14th, 17th and 24th Milwaukee County  
18 supervisory districts, plus that part of the 16th Milwaukee County supervisory  
19 district to the east of North 76th Street and to the south of Wisconsin Avenue. The  
20 4th appellate subdistrict shall consist of the 11th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd  
21 Milwaukee County supervisory districts plus that part of the 16th Milwaukee  
22 County supervisory district west of North 76th Street. Within one year after the  
23 number of court of appeals judges in district I changes or after the number of  
24 Milwaukee County supervisory districts changes the Milwaukee County board of  
25 supervisors shall create appellate subdistricts in a number not less than 4 that

1 results in an equal number of court of appeals judges within each appellate  
2 subdistrict. The appellate subdistricts shall be substantially equal in population.  
3 The Milwaukee County board of supervisors shall assign each judge of the court of  
4 appeals to an appellate subdistrict created under this subsection.

5 **SECTION 3.** 753.015 of the statutes is created to read:

6 **753.015 Elections.** (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), circuit judges shall be  
7 elected by qualified electors of that circuit on an at-large basis. A circuit judge shall  
8 reside within the circuit in which he or she is elected.

9 (2) The circuit judges for each of the 50 branches in the 1st judicial  
10 administrative district shall be elected in judicial subdistricts, numbered 1 to 25.  
11 The boundaries of each judicial subdistrict shall be the same as the boundaries  
12 established for the Milwaukee County board of supervisors. Each judicial subdistrict  
13 shall take the same number as the corresponding county supervisory district which  
14 bounds it. Each of the 25 judicial subdistricts shall elect 2 circuit judges, one for each  
15 of 2 branches. The 2 circuit judges to be elected from each judicial subdistrict shall  
16 be for those branches consecutively numbered in ascending numerical order  
17 conforming to the ascending numerical order of the judicial subdistricts. The person  
18 elected as circuit judge for a judicial subdistrict under this subsection shall reside in  
19 the judicial subdistrict in which he or she is elected. Within one year after the  
20 number of branches in the 1st judicial administrative district changes or after the  
21 number of Milwaukee County supervisory districts changes, the Milwaukee County  
22 board of supervisors shall create judicial subdistricts in a number not less than 25  
23 that results in an equal number of circuit branches within each judicial subdistrict.  
24 The judicial subdistricts shall be substantially equal in population. The Milwaukee

1 County board of supervisor shall assign each branch of the circuit court to a judicial  
2 subdistrict created under this subsection.

3 **SECTION 4.** 753.06 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 753.06 (1) (a) Milwaukee county. The circuit has ~~45 branches.~~ Commencing  
5 August 1, 1994, the circuit has 46 branches. Commencing August 1, 1996, the circuit  
6 has 50 branches.

7 **SECTION 5. Nonstatutory provisions; circuit courts.**

8 (1) CIRCUIT COURT BRANCHES, 1996. The initial election for circuit judge for  
9 branches 47, 48, 49 and 50 of the circuit court for Milwaukee County shall be at the  
10 spring election of 1996 for terms commencing August 1, 1996, and ending July 31,  
11 2002.

12 (2) CIRCUIT JUDGE POSITIONS. The authorized FTE positions for the circuit  
13 courts are increased by 4.0 GPR circuit judge positions on August 1, 1996, to be  
14 funded from the appropriation under section 20.625 (1) (a) of the statutes, to provide  
15 additional circuit court judges for the circuit court branches created by this act.

16 (3) COURT REPORTER POSITIONS. The authorized FTE positions for the circuit  
17 courts are increased by 4.0 GPR court reporter positions on August 1, 1996, to be  
18 funded from the appropriation under section 20.625 (1) (a) of the statutes, to provide  
19 one additional court reporter for each of the circuit court branches created in this act.

20 (END)