
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Assembly Bill 470

**Assembly
Amendment 1**

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 470

This bill authorizes the creation of 12 additional circuit court branches, with four branches beginning operations on August 1, 2020, four on August 1, 2021, and four on August 1, 2022. Under the bill, the director of state courts may determine to which county each additional branch is allocated, so long as the county has passed a resolution requesting an additional branch and, by May 31 of the year in which an additional branch begins operations, has established appropriate infrastructure to support the additional branch's operation.

The bill authorizes the director of state courts to require any county to which an additional circuit court branch is allocated to establish, or apply for a grant to establish, a drug court. The bill creates four new full-time equivalent (FTE) circuit court judge positions and four new FTE circuit court reporter positions on August 1, 2020 and requires the director of state courts to request, in the 2021-23 biennial budget request to the Department of Administration, funding for eight circuit court judge positions and for eight circuit court reporter positions.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 delays the authorized creation of the additional circuit court branches by one year, so that four branches begin operations on August 1, 2021, four on August 1, 2022, and four on August 1, 2023. The requirements for counties to pass a resolution and establish sufficient infrastructure are likewise delayed by one year.

The amendment eliminates the creation of the new FTE positions on August 1, 2020 and requires the director of state courts to request, in addition to the requests in the 2021-23 biennial budget, funding for four circuit court judge positions and for four circuit court reporter positions in the 2023-25 biennial budget.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 470 was offered by Representative Tusler on November 11, 2019. On November 12, 2019, the Assembly, by a voice vote, adopted the amendment. The Assembly passed Assembly Bill 470, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 95; Noes, 0.

PH:jal