

1       **AN ACT relating to:** authorizing treatment court coordinators for each judicial  
2           administrative district and increasing an appropriation.

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

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE:** This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Study Committee on Problem–Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions.

Currently, some, but not all, counties in Wisconsin operate treatment courts. Some counties may operate more than one type of treatment court, including drug, drunk driving, mental health, and veterans’ courts. Additionally, because of resource availability, treatment courts vary in the number of participants that they are able to admit at any given time. Some counties with well–established treatment court programs have coordinators for their programs. The role of the coordinator is to provide assistance, information, and coordination to treatment courts.

Testimony provided before the committee indicated that treatment courts that operate without the assistance of a coordinator have difficulty coordinating the efforts of all of the personnel that are essential to a treatment court, including judges, district attorneys, defense attorneys, and treatment providers. Often that role will fall to one of the involved personnel, who must perform coordination duties concurrently with their other, non–treatment court responsibilities. This increases the difficulty of operating a program that adheres to evidence–based principles, and can have a negative impact on the project’s success.

This draft authorizes a treatment court coordinator to be assigned to each of the 10 judicial administrative districts, to provide assistance to the treatment courts in the districts, and increases general purpose revenue (GPR) funding for the supreme court for these positions. Under SCR 70.17, there are 10 judicial administrative districts, as follows:

1. Milwaukee county.
2. Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties.
3. Jefferson, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.
4. Calumet, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, and Winnebago counties.

5. Dane, Green, Lafayette and Rock counties.
6. Adams, Clark, Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Portage, Sauk, Waushara, and Wood counties.
7. Buffalo, Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Richland, Trempealeau, and Vernon counties.
8. Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, and Waupaca counties.
9. Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Menominee, Oneida, Price, Shawano, Taylor, and Vilas counties.
10. Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, Rusk, St. Croix, Sawyer, and Washburn counties.

1           **SECTION 1. Fiscal changes.** Supreme court. (1) Treatment court coordinators for  
2 judicial administrative districts. In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for  
3 the appropriation to the supreme court under section 20.680 (2) (a) of the statutes, the dollar  
4 amount is increased by [\$ ] for each fiscal year of the biennium in which this subsection takes  
5 effect to increase the authorized FTE positions for the director of state courts office by [ ] GPR  
6 positions for the purpose of providing a treatment court coordinator for each judicial  
7 administrative district identified under SCR 70.17. The treatment court coordinators shall  
8 provide assistance, information, and coordination to treatment courts that operate within their  
9 assigned judicial administrative district. The treatment court coordinator shall also assist  
10 counties within their assigned judicial administrative district in implementing treatment  
11 courts in counties that wish to establish these courts.

**COMMENT:** The committee should discuss a funding source and funding amount for these positions.

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**(END)**