

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. DOES THE BILL:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

NOTE: The Speaker of the House has adopted new House Principles to guide members in evaluating legislation during the 2002-2004 Legislature. These principles are:

Provide limited government,
Ensure lower taxes,
Safeguard individual liberty,
Promote personal responsibility,
Empower families, and
Maintain public security.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

HB 23A authorizes fourteen new circuit judges, effective March 1, 2005: two in the Fourth Circuit; three in the Seventeenth Circuit; and one each in the First, Second, Sixth, Ninth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Eighteenth, and Twentieth Circuits.

The judges filling the new offices shall be appointed by the Governor.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Amends s. 26.031, F.S., certifying new circuit judges effective March 1, 2005.
Section 2. Provides for appointment of the judges.
Section 3. Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:
None

2. Expenditures:

According to the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA), funding for these judges and associated judicial staff positions and related operating expenses will total \$1.6 million. This amount represents four months of costs since the positions are authorized for March 1, 2005. The annual cost is projected to be \$4.2 million, as reported by OSCA.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

There is no appropriation in this bill to fund the new judges, effective March 1, 2005.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not appear to affect municipal or county government.

2. Other:

N/A

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES