



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2427		DATE: 3/4/2026	
COMMITTEE: Judiciary			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2026 11:27 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Support of this Bill that provides an additional Circuit Judge and Two (2) Associate Circuit judges to the 11th Circuit Court of Saint Charles County. Our Population have greatly increased to 445,000 County Residents. The Case Load and Management has greatly increased in Our County Circuit Court. We NEED additional Judges to maintain Order and hold people Accountable and Responsible for their bad decisions and wrong actions. These New Judge Positions are Needs to maintain Public Safety and Protect the Community.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2026 7:55 AM	
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HB 2427 creates an additional circuit judge and additional associate circuit judge positions in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit while expressly excluding those positions from the judicial workload formula established under §478.320, RSMo.

Missouri law already provides a structured, statewide method for determining when additional judgeships are warranted. The statutory workload formula exists to ensure that expansions of the judiciary are based on measurable case volume, objective workload data, and consistent statewide evaluation rather than circuit-specific statutory exceptions.

HB 2427 continues a pattern in which additional judgeships in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit have been authorized through legislation that expressly exempts those positions from the formula used to determine judicial need across the state. When exceptions to the statewide framework become routine, it raises concerns regarding transparency, statewide equity in judicial resource allocation, and adherence to the process established by the legislature itself.

If additional judicial capacity is necessary in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, the relevant question is whether the circuit’s caseload and workload metrics satisfy the standards set forth in §478.320.

Accordingly, before authorizing additional judgeships outside the statutory formula, it would be important for the legislature to review the underlying judicial workload analysis supporting this request. Specifically, the legislature should consider whether the Eleventh Judicial Circuit’s caseload data has been evaluated under the existing workload formula and whether the data demonstrates a need for additional judgeships consistent with the statewide standard applied to other circuits.

Absent that analysis, authorizing additional judicial positions through statutory carve-outs risks undermining the uniform system Missouri has established to allocate judicial resources fairly across circuits.

For these reasons, HB 2427 warrants careful reconsideration.

Legislative Notice:

HB 2427 authorizes additional circuit and associate circuit judgeships in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit while expressly excluding those positions from the judicial workload formula established under §478.320, RSMo. Because

Missouri law provides a uniform framework for evaluating the need for additional judges based on

caseload and workload data, legislative consideration should include whether the proposed expansion has been evaluated under those standards and whether the relevant workload analysis supports the creation of additional judgeships in this circuit.