

**House File 2449 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2449  
BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 676)

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to appropriations to the judicial branch.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. 2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 133, section 7, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 SEC. 7. JUDICIAL BRANCH.

4 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state  
5 to the judicial branch for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
6 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following amount, or so  
7 much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes  
8 designated:

9 a. For salaries of supreme court justices, appellate court  
10 judges, district court judges, district associate judges,  
11 associate juvenile judges, associate probate judges, judicial  
12 magistrates and staff, state court administrator, clerk of the  
13 supreme court, district court administrators, clerks of the  
14 district court, juvenile court officers, board of law examiners  
15 and board of examiners of shorthand reporters and judicial  
16 qualifications commission; receipt and disbursement of child  
17 support payments; reimbursement of the auditor of state for  
18 expenses incurred in completing audits of the offices of the  
19 clerks of the district court during the fiscal year beginning  
20 July 1, 2014; and maintenance, equipment, and miscellaneous  
21 purposes:

22 ..... \$ 82,299,684  
23 171,486,612

24 b. For deposit in the revolving fund created pursuant  
25 to section 602.1302, subsection 3, for jury and witness  
26 fees, mileage, costs related to summoning jurors, fees for  
27 interpreters, and reimbursement of attorney fees paid by the  
28 state public defender:

29 ..... \$ 1,550,000  
30 3,100,000

31 2. The judicial branch, except for purposes of internal  
32 processing, shall use the current state budget system, the  
33 state payroll system, and the Iowa finance and accounting  
34 system in administration of programs and payments for services,  
35 and shall not duplicate the state payroll, accounting, and

1 budgeting systems.

2 3. The judicial branch shall submit monthly financial  
3 statements to the legislative services agency and the  
4 department of management containing all appropriated accounts  
5 in the same manner as provided in the monthly financial status  
6 reports and personal services usage reports of the department  
7 of administrative services. The monthly financial statements  
8 shall include a comparison of the dollars and percentage  
9 spent of budgeted versus actual revenues and expenditures on  
10 a cumulative basis for full-time equivalent positions and  
11 dollars.

12 4. The judicial branch shall focus efforts upon the  
13 collection of delinquent fines, penalties, court costs, fees,  
14 surcharges, or similar amounts.

15 5. It is the intent of the general assembly that the offices  
16 of the clerks of the district court operate in all 99 counties  
17 and be accessible to the public as much as is reasonably  
18 possible in order to address the relative needs of the citizens  
19 of each county.

20 6. In addition to the requirements for transfers under  
21 section 8.39, the judicial branch shall not change the  
22 appropriations from the amounts appropriated to the judicial  
23 branch in this division of this Act, unless notice of the  
24 revisions is given prior to their effective date to the  
25 legislative services agency. The notice shall include  
26 information on the branch's rationale for making the changes  
27 and details concerning the workload and performance measures  
28 upon which the changes are based.

29 7. The judicial branch shall submit a semiannual update  
30 to the legislative services agency specifying the amounts of  
31 fines, surcharges, and court costs collected using the Iowa  
32 court information system since the last report. The judicial  
33 branch shall continue to facilitate the sharing of vital  
34 sentencing and other information with other state departments  
35 and governmental agencies involved in the criminal justice

1 system through the Iowa court information system.

2 8. The judicial branch shall provide a report to the general  
3 assembly by January 1, 2015, concerning the amounts received  
4 and expended from the enhanced court collections fund created  
5 in section 602.1304 and the court technology and modernization  
6 fund created in section 602.8108, subsection 7, during the  
7 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014,  
8 and the plans for expenditures from each fund during the fiscal  
9 year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. A copy  
10 of the report shall be provided to the legislative services  
11 agency.

12 9. It is the intent of the general assembly that the  
13 judicial branch emphasize the expansion of family treatment  
14 courts on a statewide basis.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill addresses appropriations to the judicial branch.

19 The bill increases previously enacted appropriations made in  
20 2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 133 (SF 442) from the general fund of  
21 the state for FY 2014-2015 to the judicial branch for salaries,  
22 maintenance, equipment, and miscellaneous purposes and for  
23 deposit into the fund created in Code section 602.1302(3) for  
24 the payment of jury and witness fees.

25 New language specifies that it is the intent of the general  
26 assembly that the judicial branch emphasize the expansion of  
27 family treatment courts on a statewide basis.