Judicial Branch Appropriations Bill
Senate Study Bill 1194

An Act relating to appropriations to the Judicial Branch.
FUNDING SUMMARY

General Fund FY 2018: Appropriates a total of $178.8 million from the General Fund to the Judicial Branch for FY 2018. This is no change in funding compared to estimated net FY 2017. Of this total, $3.1 million is appropriated to the Jury and Witness Revolving Fund.

STUDIES AND INTENT

Requires the Judicial Branch to focus efforts on collecting delinquent fines and fees.

Specifies legislative intent that the Clerk of Court offices operate in all 99 counties and be accessible to the public as much as reasonably possible.

Requires the Judicial Branch to provide a semiannual report to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) specifying the amount of fines, surcharges, and court costs collected using the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). Requires the Judicial Branch to continue to share vital sentencing and other information with departments and government agencies involved with the criminal justice system through the ICIS.

Requires the Judicial Branch to report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2018, regarding the revenues and expenditures of the Enhanced Court Collections Fund and the Court Technology and Modernization Fund for FY 2017 and planned expenditures for FY 2018.

Permits parties to a civil case, including a jury trial, to move the case to a contiguous county.

Permits a judicial officer to waive travel reimbursement for any travel outside the county of residence of the judicial officer.

Permits the Supreme Court to order judicial officers to take unpaid leave in the same manner as noncontract employees of the Judicial Branch.

Specifies that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Judicial Branch use the Iowa Communications Network or other secure electronic communications instead of traveling for court business during FY 2018.

Permits the Judicial Branch to use funds in the Enhanced Court Collections Fund and the Court Technology and Modernization Fund in FY 2018 for operational costs and other miscellaneous purposes and duties in addition to the purposes already specified in statute.
Senate Study Bill 1194 provides for the following changes to the Code of Iowa.
Section 1. JUDICIAL BRANCH.

1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the judicial branch for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, the following amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

   a. For salaries of supreme court justices, appellate court judges, district court judges, district associate judges, associate juvenile judges, associate probate judges, judicial magistrates and staff, state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, district court administrators, clerks of the district court, juvenile court officers, board of law examiners and board of examiners of shorthand reporters and judicial qualifications commission; receipt and disbursement of child support payments; reimbursement of the auditor of state for expenses incurred in completing audits of the offices of the clerks of the district court during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017; and maintenance, equipment, and miscellaneous purposes:

   ............................................................ $ 175,686,612

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

   ............................................................ $ 3,100,000

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

3. The judicial branch shall submit monthly financial statements to the legislative services agency and the department of management containing all appropriated accounts in the same manner as provided in the monthly financial status reports and personal services usage reports of the department of administrative services. The monthly financial statements shall include a comparison of the dollars and percentage spent of budgeted versus actual revenues and expenditures on General Fund appropriation to the Judicial Branch for operations.

   General Fund appropriation to the Jury and Witness Fee Revolving Fund for the reimbursement of juror and witness fees, mileage, and costs.

   DETAIL: This is no change compared to estimated net FY 2017.

   Prohibits the Judicial Branch from duplicating current state payroll, budgeting, and accounting systems, except for the implementation of an internal accounting and recordkeeping system.

   Requires the Judicial Branch to submit monthly financial statements for all appropriated accounts to the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) and the Department of Management (DOM). Specifies the content to be included in the financial statements.
a cumulative basis for full-time equivalent positions and

dollars.

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

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

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

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

8. The judicial branch shall provide a report to the general
assembly by January 1, 2018, concerning the amounts received
and expended from the enhanced court collections fund created
in section 602.1304 and the court technology and modernization
fund created in section 602.8108, subsection 9, during the
fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, and ending June 30, 2017,
and the plans for expenditures from each fund during the fiscal
year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018. A copy
of the report shall be provided to the legislative services
agency.

Sec. 2. CIVIL TRIALS — LOCATION. Notwithstanding any
provision to the contrary, for the fiscal year beginning July
1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, if all parties in a case
agree, a civil trial including a jury trial may take place in a
county contiguous to the county with proper jurisdiction, even

Requires the Judicial Branch to focus efforts on collecting delinquent
fines and fees.

Specifies that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Judicial
Branch operate Clerk of Court offices in all 99 counties and that the
offices be accessible to the public as much as reasonably possible.

Requires the Judicial Branch to notify the LSA prior to any
intradepartmental transfer of funds and specifies the contents of the
notice.

Requires the Judicial Branch to provide a semiannual report to the
LSA specifying the amount of fines, surcharges, and court costs
collected using the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). Requires the
Judicial Branch to continue to share vital sentencing and other
information with departments and government agencies involved with
the criminal justice system through the ICIS.

Requires the Judicial Branch to report to the General Assembly by
January 1, 2018, regarding the revenues and expenditures of the
Enhanced Court Collections Fund and the Court Technology and
Modernization Fund for FY 2017 and planned expenditures for FY
2018. The Judicial Branch is required to provide a copy of this report to
the LSA.

Permits parties to a civil case, including a jury trial, to move the case
to a contiguous county during FY 2018, even if the contiguous county
is located in an adjacent judicial district. If the trial is moved to an
adjacent judicial district, the judicial officers within the adjacent district
must preside over the case.
if the contiguous county is located in an adjacent judicial
district or judicial election district. If the trial is moved
pursuant to this section, court personnel shall treat the case
as if a change of venue occurred. However, if a trial is moved
to an adjacent judicial district or judicial election district,
the judicial officers serving in the judicial district or
judicial election district receiving the case shall preside
over the case.

Sec. 3. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT. Notwithstanding section
602.1509, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and
ending June 30, 2018, a judicial officer may waive travel
reimbursement for any travel outside the judicial officer’s
county of residence to conduct official judicial business.

Sec. 4. JUDICIAL OFFICER —— UNPAID LEAVE. Notwithstanding
the annual salary rates for judicial officers established by
2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 140, section 40, for the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, the supreme
court may by order place all judicial officers on unpaid leave
status on any day employees of the judicial branch are placed
on temporary layoff status. The biweekly pay of the judicial
officers shall be reduced accordingly for the pay period in
which the unpaid leave date occurred in the same manner as
for noncontract employees of the judicial branch. Through
the course of the fiscal year, the judicial branch may use an
amount equal to the aggregate amount of salary reductions due
to the judicial officer unpaid leave days for any purpose other
than for judicial salaries.

Sec. 5. IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. It is the intent
of the general assembly that the judicial branch utilize
the Iowa communications network or other secure electronic
communications in lieu of traveling for the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.

Sec. 6. ENHANCED COURT COLLECTIONS FUND AND COURT
TECHNOLOGY AND MODERNIZATION FUND. Notwithstanding section
602.1304, subsection 2, paragraph “c”, and section 602.8108,
subsubsection 9, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and
ending June 30, 2018, in addition to the purposes specified
in section 602.1304, subsection 2, paragraph “c”, and in
section 602.8108, subsection 9, the moneys in the funds may be
used by the judicial branch for operational costs and other
miscellaneous purposes and duties.

DIVISION II
FY 2018-2019
Sec. 7. JUDICIAL BRANCH.

1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the judicial branch for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, the following amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

   a. For salaries of supreme court justices, appellate court judges, district court judges, district associate judges, associate juvenile judges, associate probate judges, judicial magistrates and staff, state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, district court administrators, clerks of the district court, juvenile court officers, board of law examiners and board of examiners of shorthand reporters and judicial qualifications commission; receipt and disbursement of child support payments; reimbursement of the auditor of state for expenses incurred in completing audits of the offices of the clerks of the district court during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018; and maintenance, equipment, and miscellaneous purposes: $87,843,306

   b. For deposit in the revolving fund created pursuant to section 602.1302, subsection 3, for jury and witness fees, mileage, costs related to summoning jurors, costs and fees for interpreters and translators, and reimbursement of attorney fees paid by the state public defender: $1,550,000

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

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

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

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

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section 8.39, the judicial branch shall not change the
appropriations from the amounts appropriated to the judicial
branch in this division of this Act, unless notice of the
revisions is given prior to their effective date to the
legislative services agency. The notice shall include
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and details concerning the workload and performance measures
upon which the changes are based.

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

The judicial branch shall provide a report to the general
assembly by January 1, 2019, concerning the amounts received
and expended from the enhanced court collections fund created
in section 602.1304 and the court technology and modernization
fund created in section 602.8108, subsection 9, during the
fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018,
and the plans for expenditures from each fund during the fiscal
year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019. A copy
of the report shall be provided to the legislative services
county contiguous to the county with proper jurisdiction, even
if the contiguous county is located in an adjacent judicial
district or judicial election district. If the trial is moved
pursuant to this section, court personnel shall treat the case
as if a change of venue occurred. However, if a trial is moved
to an adjacent judicial district or judicial election district,
the judicial officers serving in the judicial district or
judicial election district receiving the case shall preside
over the case.

Sec. 9. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT. Notwithstanding section
602.1509, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and
ending June 30, 2019, a judicial officer may waive travel
reimbursement for any travel outside the judicial officer’s
county of residence to conduct official judicial business.

Sec. 10. JUDICIAL OFFICER —— UNPAID LEAVE. Notwithstanding
the annual salary rates for judicial officers established by
2013 Iowa Acts, chapter 140, section 40, for the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, the supreme
court may by order place all judicial officers on unpaid leave
status on any day employees of the judicial branch are placed
on temporary layoff status. The biweekly pay of the judicial
officers shall be reduced accordingly for the pay period in
which the unpaid leave date occurred in the same manner as
for noncontract employees of the judicial branch. Through
the course of the fiscal year, the judicial branch may use an
amount equal to the aggregate amount of salary reductions due
to the judicial officer unpaid leave days for any purpose other
than for judicial salaries.

Sec. 11. IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. It is the intent
of the general assembly that the judicial branch utilize
the Iowa communications network or other secure electronic
communications in lieu of traveling for the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019.
## Summary Data
### General Fund

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Grand Total

- Actual FY 2016: $181,786,612
- Estimated Net FY 2017: $178,786,612
- Rev Gov FY 2018: $178,786,612
- Senate Subcom FY 2018: $178,786,612
- Senate Sub vs. Est Net 2017 FY 2019: $89,393,306
## Justice General Fund

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