

Judicial Department

Adopted Adjustments (\$ in millions)				
	FY 2013 Adopted		FY 2014 Adopted	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2012-14 Base Budget, Ch. 890	\$406.3	\$32.5	\$406.3	\$32.5
Increases	17.0	0.1	16.9	0.1
Decreases	<u>(1.5)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>	<u>(1.5)</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>
\$ Net Change	15.5	0.1	15.4	0.1
Chapter 3 (HB 1301, as Adopted)	\$421.8	\$32.6	\$421.7	\$32.6
% Change	3.8%	0.3%	3.8%	0.3%
FTEs	3,258.71	103.00	3,258.71	103.00
# Change	71.00	0.00	71.00	0.00

- **Supreme Court of Virginia**

- ***Criminal Fund.*** Adds \$2.0 million GF each year for increased costs associated with the Criminal Fund. These funds are distributed to the Circuit, General District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District, and Combined District Courts in the budget as adopted.
- ***Involuntary Mental Commitments.*** Adds \$149,999 GF each year for the judicial costs associated with involuntary mental commitments. These funds are distributed to the General District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District, and Combined District Courts in the budget as adopted.
- ***Drug Courts.*** Includes language overriding Section 18.2-254.1.O of the *Code of Virginia*, which establishes a moratorium on the creation of new drug courts unless the jurisdictions involved have been granted authority in the *Code* to establish such a drug court. This language authorizes localities to establish and operate new drug courts using existing state funds and any available local or federal funds.
- ***Interpreters.*** Adds \$798,570 GF and 10 positions each year to provide additional foreign language interpreters and includes a companion amendment to the Circuit Courts to reflect a savings of \$1.0 million GF each year in the Criminal Fund, based on lower projected usage of contract interpreters.

- *Judicial Boundaries Study.* Provides \$240,000 GF the first year for the Supreme Court to contract with the National Center for State Courts to develop and implement a weighted caseload system to measure and compare judicial workloads in the circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts. Based on this new caseload system, the Supreme Court is directed to submit a report to the General Assembly by November 15, 2013, with recommended new boundaries for the circuits and districts, and the number of judges required in each circuit or district.
- *Repair or Replacement of Court Facilities.* Includes language to continue the suspension of the authority of circuit court judges to enter orders requiring localities to repair or replace court facilities.
- *Position Savings.* Captures a savings of \$435,000 GF each year based on the elimination of five positions, including three layoffs, in the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.
- **General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relation District Courts**
 - *Clerks' Positions.* Includes \$2.8 million GF and 61 positions each year to address workload requirements in the district court clerks' offices. These additional positions are intended to achieve about 80 percent of the staffing standard.
- **Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission**
 - *Immediate Sanction Probation Programs.* Authorizes the commission to designate up to four pilot programs with the concurrence of the chief judge of the circuit court and the attorney for the Commonwealth of the locality, and to develop procedures for implementing and evaluating the pilot programs which includes the designation of a standard, validated substance abuse assessment instrument. The language also extends the sunset provisions for the pilot programs contained in Section 19.2-303.5 of the *Code of Virginia* until July 1, 2014.
- **Virginia State Bar**
 - *Legal Aid Programs.* Adds \$1.0 million GF each year for the Legal Services Corporation of Virginia to support local legal aid programs.
- **Judicial Reversion Clearing Account**
 - *Unfrozen Judgeships.* Includes language unfreezing 23 additional circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district court judges. With this step, assuming all of the unfrozen judgeships are actually filled, as of February 1, 2013, there will be 25 frozen judgeships out of a total of 402 authorized judgeships statewide, for a vacancy rate of 6.2 percent.

- Also includes language clarifying that any additional vacancy occurring after August 1, 2012, and before December 1, 2012, in which the incumbent judge would not have been subject to mandatory retirement on or before February 15, 2013, which was not announced or planned prior to the end of the 2012 General Assembly, shall not be frozen.
- ***Across-the-Board Reductions.*** Restores \$3.0 million GF each year and eliminates language requiring certain additional across-the-board reductions (along with a companion adjustment to the revenue page). As a result, a total of \$5.3 million GF each year in across-the-board Judicial Department reductions is eliminated.