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Short Title: Judicial Elections Changes.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 11, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REVISE THE JUDICIAL DIVISIONS; TO MAKE CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF COUNTIES TO THE SUPERIOR COURT, DISTRICT COURT, AND PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICTS; TO CLARIFY LISTING OF JUDICIAL SEATS ON THE BALLOT; AND TO LIMIT ROTATION OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES TO SIX MONTHS PER YEAR.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) G.S. 7A-41, as amended by S.L. 2018-5, reads as rewritten:

"§ 7A-41. Superior court divisions and districts; judges.

(a) The counties of the State are organized into judicial divisions and superior court districts, and each superior court district has the counties, and the number of regular resident superior court judges set forth in the following table, and for districts of less than a whole county, as set out in subsection (b) of this section:

Judicial Division	Superior Court District	Counties	No. of Resident Judges
First	1	Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank, Perquimans	2
First	2	Beaufort, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell, Washington	1
First	3A	Pitt	2
Second	3B	Carteret, Craven, Pamlico	3
Second	4A 4	Duplin, Jones, <u>Onslow</u> ,	4 2



1			Sampson	
2	Second	4B	Onslow	1
3	Second	5A	(part of New Hanover, part of Pender	1
4			see subsection (b))	
5			(part of New Hanover, part of Pender	1
6		5B	see subsection (b))	
7			(part of New Hanover, part of Pender	1
8			see subsection (b))	
9		5C	(part of New Hanover, see subsection (b))	1
10			Halifax	1
11	First	6A	Bertie, Hertford, Northampton	1
12	First	6B	Nash	1
13			(part of Wilson, part of Edgecombe, see subsection (b))	1
14	First	7A	(part of Wilson, part of Edgecombe, see subsection (b))	1
15	First	7B	Lenoir and Greene	1
16			Wayne	1
17			Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, Warren	2
18	First	7C	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
19			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	2
20			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
21	Second	8A	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
22	Second	8B	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
23	Third <u>First</u>	9	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
24			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
25	Third	10A	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
26			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
27	Third	10B	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
28			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
29	Third	10C	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
30			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
31	Third	10D	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
32			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
33	<u>Third</u>	<u>10E</u>	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
34			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
35	<u>Third</u>	<u>10F</u>	(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
36			(part of Wake, see subsection (b))	1
37	Fourth <u>Third</u>	11A	Harnett, Lee	1
38			Johnston	1
39	Fourth <u>Third</u>	11B	(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	1
40	Fourth <u>Third</u>	12A	(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	1
41			(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	1
42	Fourth <u>Third</u>	12B	(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	1
43			(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	2
44	Fourth <u>Third</u>	12C	(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	2
45			(part of Cumberland, see subsection (b))	1
46	Fourth <u>Second</u>	13A	Bladen, Columbus	1
47	Fourth <u>Second</u>	13B	Brunswick	1
48	Third <u>First</u>	14A	(part of Durham, see subsection (b))	1
49			(part of Durham, see subsection (b))	3
50	Third <u>First</u>	14B	see subsection (b))	
51				

1	Third	15A	Alamance	2
2	Third <u>Fourth</u>	15B	Orange, Chatham	2
3	Fourth <u>Third</u>	16A	Anson, Richmond,	2
4			Scotland, Hoke <u>Scotland</u>	
5	Fourth <u>Second</u>	16B	Robeson	2
6	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	17A	Caswell, Rockingham	2
7	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	17B	Stokes, Surry	1
8	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	18A	(part of Guilford,	1
9			see subsection (b))	
10	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	18B	(part of Guilford,	1
11			see subsection (b))	
12	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	18C	(part of Guilford,	1
13			see subsection (b))	
14	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	18D	(part of Guilford,	1
15			see subsection (b))	
16	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	18E	(part of Guilford,	1
17			see subsection (b))	
18	Sixth <u>Fourth</u>	19A	Cabarrus	1
19	Fifth <u>Third</u>	19B	Montgomery, Randolph	2
20	Sixth <u>Fourth</u>	19C	Rowan	1
21	Fourth <u>Third</u>	19D	<u>Hoke, Moore</u>	1 <u>2</u>
22	Sixth <u>Third</u>	20A	<u>Montgomery, Stanly</u>	1 <u>2</u>
23	Sixth <u>Third</u>	20B	Union	2
24	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	21A	(part of Forsyth,	1
25			see subsection (b))	
26	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	21B	(part of Forsyth,	1
27			see subsection (b))	
28	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	21C	(part of Forsyth,	1
29			see subsection (b))	
30	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	21D	(part of Forsyth,	1
31			see subsection (b))	
32	Sixth <u>Fourth</u>	22A	Alexander, Iredell	2
33	Sixth <u>Fourth</u>	22B	Davidson, Davie	2
34	Fifth <u>Fourth</u>	23	Alleghany, Ashe,	1
35			Wilkes, Yadkin	
36	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	24	Avery, Madison,	2
37			Mitchell,	
38			Watauga, Yancey	
39	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	25A	Burke, Caldwell	2
40	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	25B	Catawba	2
41	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	26A	(part of Mecklenburg,	2
42			see subsection (b))	
43	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	26B	(part of Mecklenburg,	3
44			see subsection (b))	
45	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	26C	(part of Mecklenburg,	2
46			see subsection (b))	
47	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	27A	Gaston	2
48	Seventh <u>Fifth</u>	27B	Cleveland, Lincoln	2
49	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	28	Buncombe	2
50	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	29A	McDowell,	1
51			Rutherford	

1	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	29B	Henderson, Polk,	1
2			Transylvania	
3	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	30A	Cherokee, Clay,	1
4			Graham, Macon,	
5			Swain	
6	Eighth <u>Fifth</u>	30B	Haywood, Jackson	1
7	...			

(b1) The qualified voters of District 4 shall elect all judges established for District 4 in subsection (a) of this section, but only persons who reside in Onslow County may be candidates for one of the judgeships and only persons who reside in Duplin, Jones, or Sampson County may be candidates for the remaining judgeship.

...."

SECTION 1.(b) The additional judge in District 19D, as established by this section, shall take office on January 1, 2019, with an election in 2018 to be held accordingly.

SECTION 1.(c) The additional judge in District 20A, as established by this section, shall take office on January 1, 2021, with an election in 2020 to be held accordingly.

SECTION 1.(d) Except as provided in this section, this section becomes effective January 1, 2019, and elections in 2018 shall be held accordingly.

SECTION 2.(a) G.S. 7A-133 reads as rewritten:

"§ 7A-133. **Numbers of judges by districts; numbers of magistrates and additional seats of court, by counties.**

(a) Each district court district shall have the numbers of judges as set forth in the following table:

District	Judges	County
1	5	Camden
		Chowan
		Currituck
		Dare
		Gates
		Pasquotank
2	4	Perquimans
		Martin
		Beaufort
		Tyrrell
3A	5	Hyde
		Washington
3B	6	Pitt
		Craven
		Pamlico
4	8	Carteret
		Sampson
		Duplin
		Jones
		Onslow
5	9	New Hanover
		Pender
6	4	Northampton
		Bertie
		Hertford
		Halifax

1	7	7	Nash
2			Edgecombe
3			Wilson
4	8	6	Wayne
5			Greene
6			Lenoir
7	9	5	Granville
8			(part of Vance
9			see subsection (b))
10			Franklin
11			Person
12	9B	2	Warren
13			(part of Vance
14			see subsection (b))
15	10	19	Wake
16	11	11	Harnett
17			Johnston
18			Lee
19	12	10	Cumberland
20	13	6	Bladen
21			Brunswick
22			Columbus
23	14	7	Durham
24	15A	4	Alamance
25	15B	5	Orange
26			Chatham
27	16A	<u>64</u>	Scotland
28			Hoke
29			Anson
30			Richmond
31	16B	5	Robeson
32	17A	4	Caswell
33			Rockingham
34	17B	4	Stokes
35			Surry
36	18	14	Guilford
37	19A	5	Cabarrus
38	19B	<u>75</u>	Montgomery
39			Moore
40			Randolph
41	19C	5	Rowan
42	<u>19D</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Hoke, Moore</u>
43	20A	<u>23</u>	<u>Stanly, Montgomery, Stanly</u>
44	20B	1	(part of Union
45			see subsection (b))
46	20C	2	(part of Union
47			see subsection (b))
48	20D	1	Union
49	21	11	Forsyth
50	22A	5	Alexander
51			Iredell

1	22B	6	Davidson
2			Davie
3	23	4	Alleghany
4			Ashe
5			Wilkes
6			Yadkin
7	24	4	Avery
8			Madison
9			Mitchell
10			Watauga
11			Yancey
12	25	9	Burke
13			Caldwell
14			Catawba
15	26	21	Mecklenburg
16	27A	7	Gaston
17	27B	6	Cleveland
18			Lincoln
19	28	7	Buncombe
20	29A	3	McDowell
21			Rutherford
22	29B	4	Henderson
23			Polk
24			Transylvania
25	30	6	Cherokee
26			Clay
27			Graham
28			Haywood
29			Jackson
30			Macon
31			Swain.

(b) For district court districts of less than a whole county, or with part or all of one county with part of another, the composition of the district is as follows:

...

(b5) The qualified voters of District 16A shall elect all judges established for District 16A in subsection (a) of this section, but only persons who reside in Anson County may be candidates for one of the judgeships, only persons who reside in Scotland County may be candidates for one of the judgeships, and only persons who reside in Richmond County may be candidates for the remaining judgeships. In order to implement this section the following shall apply in order to transition from at large seats to residency requirements:

- (1) In 2020, and every four years thereafter, the district court judgeship requiring a resident of Anson County shall be elected, and a district court judgeship requiring a resident of Richmond County shall be elected.
- (2) In 2022, and every four years thereafter, the district court judgeship requiring a resident of Scotland County shall be elected, and a district court judgeship requiring a resident of Richmond County shall be elected.

(b6) The qualified voters of District 20A shall elect all judges established for District 20A in subsection (a) of this section, but only persons who reside in Montgomery County may be candidates for one of the judgeships, and only persons who reside in Montgomery or Stanly County may be candidates for the remaining judgeships.

1 **(b7)** Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the qualified voters of District 25 shall
2 elect all judges established for District 25 in subsection (a) of this section, but only persons who
3 reside in Catawba County may be candidates for five of the judgeships, and only persons who
4 reside in Burke or Caldwell County may be candidates for the remaining judgeships. In order to
5 implement this section the following shall apply in order to transition from at large seats to
6 residency requirements:

7 **(1)** Transition of seats; regular elections. – For any district court judgeship that is
8 held by a resident of Burke or Caldwell Counties on July 1, 2018, at the next
9 general election after July 1, 2018, that district court judgeship shall be filled
10 only by a person who is a resident of Burke or Caldwell Counties. Until such
11 time as three district court judgeships transition under subdivision (2) of this
12 subsection, for any district court judgeship that is held by a resident of
13 Catawba County on July 1, 2018, that district court judgeship shall, at the next
14 general election after July 1, 2018, be filled only by a person who is a resident
15 of Burke, Caldwell, or Catawba County.

16 **(2)** Transition of seats; vacancies. – Upon each of the first three district court
17 judgeship vacancies occurring in District Court District 25 after July 1, 2018,
18 due to death, resignation, removal, or retirement of a person who is a resident
19 of Catawba County holding a judgeship on July 1, 2018, that vacancy shall be
20 filled according to law for the remainder of the unfilled term. At the next
21 general election held for that district court judgeship, only persons who reside
22 in Burke or Caldwell County may be candidates for that district court
23 judgeship. Any primary associated with that general election for that district
24 court judgeship after the completion of the term shall also be held accordingly,
25 in accordance with this subsection.

26 **(3)** Notification to State Board. – Upon each of the first three district court
27 judgeship vacancies occurring after July 1, 2018, in District Court District 25
28 due to the death, resignation, removal, or retirement of a person who is a
29 resident of Catawba County holding a judgeship on July 1, 2018, the Director
30 of the Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide written notice of the
31 vacancy to the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement. During the
32 filing period for that district court judgeship at the next general election held
33 for that district court judgeship, the State Board of Elections and Ethics
34 Enforcement shall ensure that only persons who reside in Burke or Caldwell
35 County may file as candidates for that district court judgeship in accordance
36 this subsection.

37 **(4)** Final transition. – If a total of three district court judgeships have not
38 transferred under subdivision (2) of this subsection to be eligible to be held by
39 only persons who are residents of Burke or Caldwell Counties by January 1,
40 2030, a sufficient number of district court judgeships to total three district
41 court judgeships shall be transferred to be held by only persons who are
42 residents of Burke or Caldwell Counties on January 1, 2031, and the 2030
43 elections shall be held accordingly.

44 "

45 **SECTION 2.(b)** The additional judge in District Court District 20A, as established
46 by this section, shall take office on January 1, 2019, with an election in 2018 to be held
47 accordingly. In implementing G.S. 7A-133(b6), as enacted by this section, State Board of
48 Elections and Ethics Enforcement shall ensure that only residents of Montgomery County may
49 be candidates for the additional judge in District Court District 20A in the 2018 election, and
50 every four years thereafter.

1 **SECTION 2.(c)** G.S. 7A-133(b5) and G.S. 7A-133(b6), as enacted by this section,
 2 become effective January 1, 2021, with elections in 2020 to be held accordingly.

3 **SECTION 2.(d)** Except as otherwise provided, G.S. 7A-133, as enacted by this
 4 section, becomes effective January 1, 2019.

5 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 7A-60 reads as rewritten:

6 **"§ 7A-60. District attorneys and prosecutorial districts.**

7 (a) The State shall be divided into prosecutorial districts, as shown in subsection (a1) of
 8 this section. There shall be a district attorney for each prosecutorial district, as provided in
 9 subsections (b) and (c) of this section who shall be a resident of the prosecutorial district for
 10 which elected. A vacancy in the office of district attorney shall be filled as provided in Article
 11 IV, Sec. 19 of the Constitution.

12 ...

13 (a1) **(Effective January 1, 2019)** The counties of the State are organized into prosecutorial
 14 districts, and each district has the counties and the number of full-time assistant district attorneys
 15 set forth in the following table:

Prosecutorial District	Counties	No. of Full-Time Asst. District Attorneys
1	Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank, Perquimans	11
2	Beaufort, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell, Washington	8
3	Pitt	12
4	Carteret, Craven, Pamlico	13
5	Duplin, Jones, Onslow, Sampson	19
6	New Hanover, Pender	19
7	Bertie, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton	11
8	Edgecombe, Nash, Wilson	19
9	Greene, Lenoir, Wayne	14
10 <u>11</u>	Franklin, Granville, Person	14 <u>15</u>
	Vance, Warren	
11 <u>10</u>	Wake	42
12	Harnett, Lee	11
13	Johnston	10
14	Cumberland	25
15	Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus	14
16	Durham	18
17	Alamance	12
18	Orange, Chatham	10
19	Scotland, Hoke	7
20	Robeson	12
21	Anson, Richmond <u>Richmond, Scotland</u>	6 <u>9</u>
22	Caswell, Rockingham	9 <u>8</u>
23	Stokes, Surry	8
24	Guilford	34
25	Cabarrus	9
26 <u>37</u>	Montgomery, Randolph	10
27	Rowan	9
28 <u>29</u>	Hoke, Moore	5 <u>9</u>

1	<u>2928</u>	<u>Montgomery, Stanly</u>	<u>56</u>
2	30	Union	11
3	31	Forsyth	27
4	32	Alexander, Iredell	12
5	33	Davidson, Davie	12
6	34	Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes, Yadkin	9
7	35	Avery, Madison, Mitchell,	8
8		Watauga, Yancey	
9	36	Burke, Caldwell, Catawba <u>Caldwell</u>	<u>199</u>
10	37 <u>26</u>	Mecklenburg	58
11	38	Gaston	15
12	39	Cleveland, Lincoln	12
13	40	Buncombe	14
14	41	McDowell, Rutherford	8
15	42	Henderson, Polk, Transylvania	9
16	43	Cherokee, Clay, Graham,	12
17		Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain.	
18	<u>44</u>	<u>Catawba</u>	<u>10</u>
19"		

20 **SECTION 3.(b)** The office and term of the district attorney for Prosecutorial District
 21 19 formerly consisting of Hoke and Scotland Counties is terminated upon the expiration of the
 22 current term, December 31, 2020. Effective January 1, 2021, District 19 formerly consisting of
 23 Hoke and Scotland Counties is reassigned as provided in this section. All open investigations and
 24 pending cases for Prosecutorial District 19 formerly consisting of Hoke and Scotland Counties
 25 shall be transferred to either District 21 or District 29, as enacted by this section. Hoke County
 26 is added to District 29, as enacted by this section, and the total number of ADAs in that district
 27 is nine. Scotland County is added to District 21, and the total number of ADAs in that district is
 28 nine.

29 **SECTION 3.(c)** The merging of Montgomery County into Prosecutorial District 28,
 30 as enacted by this section, becomes effective January 1, 2019. All open investigations and
 31 pending cases in Montgomery County are transferred to Prosecutorial District 28, effective
 32 January 1, 2019. The total number of ADAs in District 28 is nine.

33 **SECTION 3.(d)** The office and term of the district attorney for Prosecutorial District
 34 36 formerly consisting of Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties is terminated upon the
 35 expiration of the term expiring December 31, 2022. Effective January 1, 2023, District 36
 36 formerly consisting of Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties is reassigned as provided in this
 37 section. All open investigations and pending cases for Prosecutorial District 36 formerly
 38 consisting of Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties shall be transferred to either District 36 or
 39 District 44, as enacted by this section. Burke and Caldwell Counties remain in District 36, as
 40 enacted by this section, and the total number of ADAs in that district is nine. Catawba County is
 41 added to District 44, and the total number of ADAs in that district is 10.

42 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 163A-1112(a) reads as rewritten:

- 43 "(a) Except as provided in this section, each official ballot shall contain all the following
 44 elements:
- 45 (1) The heading prescribed by the State Board. The heading shall include the term
 46 "Official Ballot".
 - 47 (2) The title of each office to be voted on and the number of votes allowed in each
 48 ballot item.
 - 49 (3) The names of the candidates as they appear on their notice of candidacy filed
 50 pursuant to G.S. 163A-972, 163A-973, 163A-974, 163A-975, 163A-976,
 51 163A-977, and 163A-978, or on petition forms filed in accordance with

1 G.S. 163A-1005. No title, appendage, or appellation indicating rank, status,
 2 or position shall be printed on the official ballot in connection with the
 3 candidate's name. Candidates, however, may use the title Mr., Mrs., Miss, or
 4 Ms. Nicknames shall be permitted on an official ballot if used in the notice of
 5 candidacy or qualifying petition, but the nickname shall appear according to
 6 standards adopted by the State Board. Those standards shall allow the
 7 presentation of legitimate nicknames in ways that do not mislead the voter or
 8 unduly advertise the candidacy. In the case of candidates for presidential
 9 elector, the official ballot shall not contain the names of the candidates for
 10 elector but instead shall contain the nominees for President and Vice President
 11 which the candidates for elector represent. The State Board shall establish a
 12 review procedure that local boards of elections shall follow to ensure that
 13 candidates' names appear on the official ballot in accordance with this
 14 subdivision.

15 (4) Party designations in partisan ballot items.

16 (5) A means by which the voter may cast write-in votes, as provided in
 17 G.S. 163A-1006. No space for write-ins is required unless a write-in candidate
 18 has qualified under G.S. 163A-1006 or unless the ballot item is exempt from
 19 G.S. 163A-1006.

20 (6) Instructions to voters, unless the State Board allows instructions to be placed
 21 elsewhere than on the official ballot.

22 (7) The printed title and facsimile signature of the chair of the county board of
 23 elections.

24 (8) The designation of vacancy sought, for any vacancy for the office of Justice
 25 or judge of the courts. The designation shall not be the name or names of any
 26 incumbent or other individual but shall be designated as determined by the
 27 State Board."

28 **SECTION 4.(b)** G.S. 163A-975 reads as rewritten:

29 **"§ 163A-975. Notice of candidacy for certain offices to indicate vacancy.**

30 In any primary in which there are two or more vacancies for associate justices for the Supreme
 31 Court, two or more vacancies for the Court of Appeals, two or more vacancies for superior or
 32 district court judge, or two vacancies for United States Senator from North Carolina, each
 33 candidate shall, at the time of filing notice of candidacy, file with the State Board a written
 34 statement designating the vacancy to which the candidate seeks nomination. The designation
 35 shall not be the name or names of any incumbent or other individual but shall be designated as
 36 determined by the State Board. A person seeking election for a specialized district judgeship
 37 established under G.S. 7A-147 shall, at the time of filing notice of candidacy, file with the State
 38 Board a written statement designating the specialized judgeship to which the person seeks
 39 nomination. Votes cast for a candidate shall be effective only for nomination to the vacancy for
 40 which the candidate has given notice of candidacy as provided in this section."

41 **SECTION 4.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to
 42 elections held on or after that date.

43 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 7A-47.3 reads as rewritten:

44 **"§ 7A-47.3. Rotation and assignment; sessions.**

45 (a) To effect the intent of Article IV, Section 11 of the North Carolina Constitution, each
 46 regular resident superior court judge may, upon each rotation, be assigned to hold the courts
 47 either of one of the districts or of one of the sets of ~~districts, as defined in G.S. 7A-41.1(a),~~
 48 districts in that judge's judicial division.

49 (b) All sessions of superior court shall be for an entire county, whether that county
 50 comprises or is located in a district or in a set of districts ~~as defined in G.S. 7A-41.1(a),~~ and at
 51 each session all matters and proceedings arising anywhere in the county shall be heard.

1 (c) In making assignment of the judges of the superior court, the Chief Justice of the
2 Supreme Court shall strive to allow each regular resident superior court judge to be assigned to
3 the district or set of districts from which that regular resident superior court judge was elected or
4 appointed no less than one-half of the calendar year.

5 (d) For purposes of this section, "district or set of districts" shall have the same meaning
6 as in G.S. 7A-41.1(a)."

7 **SECTION 6.** Other than the filing period, the election for the office of judge for
8 Superior Court District 19D and District Court District 20A shall be held in accordance with
9 Section 4 of S.L. 2017-214, as amended. Candidates seeking the office of judge for Superior
10 Court District 19D or District Court District 20A shall file their notice of candidacy with the
11 State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement no earlier than 12:00 noon on July 9, 2018, and
12 no later than 12:00 noon on July 13, 2018.

13 **SECTION 7.** Subsection 18B.6 of S.L. 2018-5 reads as rewritten:

14 "**SECTION 18B.6.** Effective January 1, 2019, ~~G.S. 7A-41(a1)~~ G.S. 7A-60(a1) reads as
15 rewritten:

16 (a1) The counties of the State are organized into prosecutorial districts, and each district
17 has the counties and the number of full-time assistant district attorneys set forth in the following
18 table:

19 "

20 **SECTION 8.** The Director of the Budget shall increase the budget of the
21 Administrative Office of the Courts from the unreserved fund balance set forth in S.L. 2018-5 in
22 an amount sufficient to cover the costs of the judgeships created by this bill. These funds are
23 hereby appropriated.

24 **SECTION 9.** If Senate Bill 757, 2018 Regular Session, becomes law, then Section
25 1(c) of that act reads as rewritten:

26 "**SECTION 1.(c)** In order to implement the superior court districts as enacted by this section,
27 in 2018 and every eight years thereafter, elections shall be conducted for Districts ~~5A, 5B, 26C,~~
28 ~~26E, 26F, and 26H;~~ in 2020 and every eight years thereafter, elections shall be conducted for
29 District 26A; and in 2022 and every eight years thereafter, elections shall be conducted for
30 Districts 26B, 26D, and 26G; and in 2024 and every eight years thereafter, elections shall be
31 conducted for ~~District 5C.~~ Districts 5A and 5C."

32 **SECTION 10.** If Senate Bill 757, 2018 Regular Session, becomes law, the
33 assignment of judicial divisions in G.S. 7A-41(a), as enacted by that act, shall be repealed.

34 **SECTION 11.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
35 law.