STATE OF NEW YORK

9855

IN SENATE

June 5, 2024

Introduced by Sen. SCARCELLA-SPANTON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the family court act and the New York city civil court act, in relation to increasing the number of judges in certain courts

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 121 of the family court act, as amended by chapter 749 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

§ 121. Number of judges. The family court within the city of New York shall consist of [~~sixty-three~~] **sixty-seven** judges, effective January first, two thousand [~~twenty-four~~] **twenty-five**. There shall be at least one family court judge resident in each county of the city of New York**; provided, however, that there shall be at least three family court judge residents in the county of Richmond**.

§ 2. Section 102-a of the New York city civil court act is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-b to read as follows:

2-b. Twelve additional judges of the civil court of the city of New York shall be elected in and from the residents of the following counties in the indicated numbers: from the county of New York, three; from the county of Bronx, three; from the county of Kings, three; and from the county of Queens, three. Such additional judges shall receive the same compensation as the existing judges of the civil court of the city of New York and shall be elected countywide within the city of New York.

§ 3. Section 131 of the family court act is amended by adding a new subdivision (x) to read as follows:

(x) There shall be an additional family court judge for each of the following counties: Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Erie, Jefferson, Rensselaer, Rockland and Westchester. Moreover, there shall be two additional family court judges from the county of Suffolk and there shall be two additional family court judges from the county of Nassau. The compensation of each such additional family court judge shall be the same as the compensation paid to each existing family court judge in such county or, if there is no separately-elected family court judge in such county,

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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the same as the compensation paid to a judge of the county court in such county.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that the positions created by sections two and three of this act shall be filled by election at the November 5, 2024 election, for a term to commence on the first day of January, 2025, as if such vacancy occurred on the effective date of this act. Party nominations shall be made as provided for in section 6-116 and 6-158 of the election law, and the independent nominations shall be made as provided for by subdivision 10 of section 6-158 of the election law.