STATE OF NEW YORK

9397

IN SENATE

May 15, 2024

Introduced by Sen. WEBER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the judiciary law, in relation to creating a fourteenth judicial district

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

Section 1. Section 70 of the judiciary law, as amended by chapter 690 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

§ 70. Judicial departments. The state is hereby divided into four judicial departments. The first department shall consist of the counties embraced within the first and twelfth judicial districts; the second department shall consist of the counties embraced within the second, ninth, tenth, eleventh [~~and~~], thirteenth **and fourteenth** judicial districts; the third department shall consist of the counties embraced within the third, fourth and sixth judicial districts; the fourth department shall consist of the counties embraced within the fifth, seventh and eighth judicial districts.

§ 2. The opening paragraph and the ninth undesignated paragraph of section 140 of the judiciary law, the opening paragraph as amended by chapter 690 of the laws of 2007 and the ninth undesignated paragraph as amended by chapter 10 of the laws of 1948, are amended and a new fourteenth undesignated paragraph is added to read as follows:

The state is hereby divided into [~~thirteen~~] **fourteen** judicial districts, pursuant to the provisions of the first section of the sixth article of the constitution, which districts shall be arranged as follows:

The ninth judicial district shall consist of the [~~counties~~] **county** of Westchester[~~, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange and Rockland~~];

The fourteenth judicial district shall consist of the counties of Putnam, Dutchess, Orange, and Rockland. The creation of such fourteenth district shall not affect or impair the rights, privileges or compensation of any officer or employee of the supreme court in office on the first day of January, two thousand twenty-five in the ninth judicial district as theretofore constituted; each such officer or employee

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

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employed in the counties of Putnam, Dutchess, Orange, and Rockland on such date shall thereafter be an officer or employee for the fourteenth judicial district and each such officer or employee employed in the county of Westchester on such date shall thereafter be an officer or employee for the ninth judicial district.

§ 3. Section 140-a of the judiciary law, as amended by chapter 749 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

§ 140-a. Number of supreme court justices in each judicial district. The number of justices of the supreme court in each judicial district shall be as follows:

1. First district, thirty-eight;
2. Second district, fifty-three;
3. Third district, seventeen;
4. Fourth district, fourteen;
5. Fifth district, nineteen;
6. Sixth district, eleven;
7. Seventh district, twenty;
8. Eighth district, twenty-eight;
9. Ninth district, [~~thirty-four~~] **eighteen**;
10. Tenth district, fifty-one;
11. Eleventh district, forty-four;
12. Twelfth district, twenty-nine;
13. Thirteenth district, nine**;**
14. Fourteenth district, eleven.

No person may serve in the office of justice of the supreme court unless [~~he or she~~] **such person** has been admitted to practice law in the state of New York for at least ten years as of the date [~~he or she~~] **such person** commences the duties of office.

§ 4. The following named justices or their successors in office on the effective date of this act shall for the remainder of the terms for which they were elected or appointed be justices of the supreme court in and for the ninth judicial district as reconstituted and continued by this act.

Hon. Robert M. DiBella
Hon. David F. Everett
Hon. Keri A. Fiore
Hon. William J. Giacomo
Hon. Hal B. Greenwald
Hon. James L. Hyer
Hon. Linda S. Jamieson
Hon. Nancy Quinn Koba
Hon. Joan B. Lefkowitz
Hon. Lewis Lubell
Hon. Janet C. Malone
Hon. Paul I. Marx
Hon. James McCarty
Hon. Anne E. Minihan
Hon. Alexandra D. Murphy
Hon. Robert S. Ondrovic
Hon. Amy S. Puerto
Hon. Thomas Quinones
Hon. Larry J. Schwartz
Hon. Rolf M. Thorsen
Hon. Gretchen M. Walsh
Hon. Charles D. Woo

The following named justices or their successors in office on the effective date of this act shall for the remainder of the terms for which they were elected or appointed be justices of the supreme court in and for the fourteenth judicial district as created and constituted by this act. Any positions that were vacant on June 15, 2024 shall be justices of the ninth judicial district.

Hon. Gina C. Capone
Hon. Victor G. Grossman
Hon. Christi J. Acker
Hon. Thomas R. Davis
Hon. Maria G. Rosa
Hon. Elena M. Goldberg-Velazquez
Hon. Sandra Sciortino
Hon. David J. Squirrell
Hon. Maria S. Vazquez-Doles
Hon. E. Loren Williams
Hon. David S. Zuckerman
Hon. Christie L. D'Alessio
Hon. Sherri L. Eisenpress
Hon. Hal B. Greenwald
Hon. Thomas Zugibe

§ 5. If any provisions of any section of this act shall be held void or unconstitutional, all other provisions and all other sections of this act which are not expressly held to be void or unconstitutional shall continue in full force and effect.

§ 6. This act shall take effect January 1, 2025.