

Judicial Department

Proposed Adjustments as Introduced (\$ in millions)				
	FY 2015 Proposed <u>GF</u> <u>NGF</u>		FY 2016 Proposed <u>GF</u> <u>NGF</u>	
2014-16 Base Budget, Ch. 806	\$424.2	\$32.9	\$424.2	\$32.9
Proposed increases	21.2	1.3	21.8	1.4
Proposed decreases	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
\$ Net Change	21.2	1.3	21.8	1.4
HB/SB 30, as Introduced	\$445.4	\$34.2	\$446.0	\$34.3
% Change	5.0%	3.9%	5.1%	4.3%
FTEs	3,259.71	103.00	3,259.71	103.00
# Change	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

- **Supreme Court of Virginia**
 - *Restore Funding for Judgeships.* Eliminates the mandatory reversion of \$3.9 million GF in savings from judicial vacancies in FY 2015 and FY 2016. However, the language which automatically freezes vacant circuit court and district court judgeships, with specific exceptions, is continued in the introduced budget.
 - Language is added authorizing the filling of 13 Circuit, eight General District, and four Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judgeships that are currently or soon to become vacant. This new language does not specify the vacancies, stating the General Assembly shall make this determination in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
 - The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) has submitted its report on judicial workload. The report recommends that some judgeships be eliminated based on lower workloads, and the positions reestablished in areas with higher workloads. Accordingly, legislation may be introduced to move some vacant judgeships from areas with lower workload to areas with higher workload. The NCSC recommends a net increase of 27 in the total number of judgeships statewide, for a total of 429 judgeships, compared to the current number of 402.

- ***Criminal Fund.*** Adds \$2.7 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 introduced.
- ***Judicial Performance Evaluation Project.*** Adds \$50,000 GF the first year and \$240,000 GF the second year for the judicial performance evaluation project.
- **Circuit Courts**
 - ***Courthouse Improvements.*** Continues language previously included by the General Assembly which overrides the statutory authority of Circuit Court judges to mandate local government expenditures for courthouse improvements. This provision is proposed to be continued through June 30, 2016.
- **Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission**
 - ***Immediate Sanctions Program.*** Adds language extending the time period of the immediate sanction probation pilot program for one year, from the current July 1, 2014 ending date to July 1, 2015. The four pilot programs are in Henrico County, Arlington County, the City of Lynchburg, and a joint program serving the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. The extension is intended to provide sufficient time for data collection in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot programs.
- **Virginia State Bar**
 - ***Appropriation of Increased Revenues.*** Increases the appropriation by \$1.2 million the first year and \$1.3 million the second year from nongeneral funds to reflect increased expenditures for personal services and nonpersonal services.
 - ***Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center.*** Adds language to set out the pass-through funding amounts for the center (\$352,500 GF each year).
- **Judicial Reversion Clearing Account**
 - ***Agency Balances.*** Captures year-end balances as of June 30, 2013, from the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission (\$190,000), and the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission (\$175,000).