



January 21, 2025

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## HOUSE BILL No. 1144

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DIGEST OF HB 1144 (Updated January 15, 2025 10:49 am - DI 140)

**Citations Affected:** IC 33-33.

**Synopsis:** Hamilton County courts. Adds two superior courts to Hamilton County. Provides that the first judges of Hamilton superior courts No. 8 and No. 9 shall: (1) be elected at the November 2026 general election; (2) take office January 1, 2027; and (3) serve a term of six years. Allows the judges of the Hamilton circuit and superior courts to jointly appoint two additional magistrates to serve the Hamilton County courts.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.  
January 21, 2025, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 126.3.

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HB 1144—LS 6663/DI 151





January 21, 2025

First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1144

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning courts and court officers.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 33-33-29-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.123-2021,  
2 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 2. (a) There are established ~~seven (7)~~ **nine (9)**  
4 superior courts of record to be known as the:  
5 (1) Hamilton superior court No. 1;  
6 (2) Hamilton superior court No. 2;  
7 (3) Hamilton superior court No. 3;  
8 (4) Hamilton superior court No. 4;  
9 (5) Hamilton superior court No. 5;  
10 (6) Hamilton superior court No. 6; ~~and~~  
11 (7) Hamilton superior court No. 7;  
12 **(8) Hamilton superior court No. 8; and**  
13 **(9) Hamilton superior court No. 9.**  
14 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, each Hamilton  
15 superior court is a standard superior court as described in IC 33-29-1.  
16 (c) Hamilton County constitutes the judicial district of each court.  
17 SECTION 2. IC 33-33-29-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA

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1 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: **Sec. 2.3. (a) Notwithstanding section**  
3 **2 of this chapter, Hamilton superior court No. 8 and Hamilton**  
4 **superior court No. 9 are established January 1, 2027.**

5 **(b) The first judge of Hamilton superior court No. 8 and**  
6 **Hamilton superior court No. 9 shall:**

7 **(1) be elected at the November 2026 general election;**

8 **(2) take office January 1, 2027; and**

9 **(3) serve a term of six (6) years.**

10 **(c) This section expires January 1, 2033.**

11 SECTION 3. IC 33-33-29-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.138-2020,  
12 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
13 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 6. (a) The judge of the Hamilton circuit court and  
14 the judges of the Hamilton superior courts may jointly appoint ~~four (4)~~  
15 **six (6)** full-time magistrates under IC 33-23-5 to serve the circuit and  
16 superior courts.

17 (b) A magistrate continues in office until jointly removed by the  
18 judge of the Hamilton circuit court and the judges of the Hamilton  
19 superior courts.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Courts and Criminal Code, to which was referred House Bill 1144, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1144 as introduced.)

MCNAMARA

Committee Vote: Yeas 13, Nays 0

