

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 361 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, COMMITTEE, CULVER AND SANTARSIERO, FEBRUARY 10, 2023

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DECEMBER 12, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in organization and
3 jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, further providing for
4 courts of common pleas.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 911(a) of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 911. Courts of common pleas.

10 (a) General rule.--There shall be one court of common pleas
11 for each judicial district of this Commonwealth consisting of
12 the following number of judges:

Table with 2 columns: Judicial District, Number of Judges. Rows include First (93), Second (15), Third (9), and Fourth (1).

1	Fifth	43	
2	Sixth	9	
3	Seventh	15	
4	Eighth	[3] 4	
5	Ninth	7	
6	Tenth	11	
7	Eleventh	[10] 11	<--
8	Twelfth	[10] 11	<--
9	Thirteenth	2	
10	Fourteenth	5	
11	Fifteenth	[14] 15	
12	Sixteenth	3	
13	Seventeenth	2	
14	Eighteenth	1	
15	Nineteenth	15	
16	Twentieth	[1] 2	
17	Twenty-first	6	
18	Twenty-second	2	
19	Twenty-third	13	
20	Twenty-fourth	5	
21	Twenty-fifth	2	
22	Twenty-sixth	[2] 3	
23	Twenty-seventh	7	
24	Twenty-eighth	2	
25	Twenty-ninth	5	
26	Thirtieth	3	
27	Thirty-first	[10] 11	<--
28	Thirty-second	21	
29	Thirty-third	2	
30	Thirty-fourth	1	

1	Thirty-fifth	4	
2	Thirty-sixth	7	
3	Thirty-seventh	2	
4	Thirty-eighth	[24] 26	<--
5	Thirty-ninth	5	
6	Fortieth	3	
7	Forty-first	2	
8	Forty-second	2	
9	Forty-third	7	
10	Forty-fourth	[1] 2	<--
11	Forty-fifth	9	
12	Forty-sixth	2	
13	Forty-seventh	5	
14	Forty-eighth	2	
15	Forty-ninth	4	
16	Fiftieth	[6] 7	
17	Fifty-first	4	
18	Fifty-second	4	
19	Fifty-third	4	
20	Fifty-fourth	1	
21	Fifty-fifth	1	
22	Fifty-sixth	3	
23	Fifty-seventh	2	
24	Fifty-eighth	2	
25	Fifty-ninth	1	
26	Sixtieth	2	

27 \* \* \*

28 ~~Section 2. The new judgeships for the Eighth Judicial~~ <--  
29 ~~District, Twenty sixth Judicial District and Fiftieth Judicial~~ <--  
30 ~~District added by the amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. § 911(a) shall be~~

1 ~~established on January 1, 2026, and shall be initially filled by~~  
2 ~~election at the 2025 municipal election.~~

3 ~~SECTION 3. THE NEW JUDGESHIPS FOR THE THIRTY EIGHTH JUDICIAL <--~~  
4 ~~DISTRICT ADDED BY THE AMENDMENT OF 42 PA.C.S. § 911(A) SHALL BE~~  
5 ~~ESTABLISHED ON JANUARY 1, 2028, AND SHALL BE INITIALLY FILLED BY~~  
6 ~~ELECTION AT THE 2027 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.~~

7 SECTION 2. THE FOLLOWING APPLY: <--

8 (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3), THE  
9 PROVISIONS OF 42 PA.C.S. §§ 3132 AND 3135 SHALL APPLY TO THE  
10 JUDGESHIPS ADDED BY THE AMENDMENT OF 42 PA.C.S. § 911(A).

11 (2) THE NEW JUDGESHIPS FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT,  
12 ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT,  
13 THIRTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FORTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL  
14 DISTRICT AND FIFTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADDED BY THE  
15 AMENDMENT OF 42 PA.C.S. § 911(A) SHALL BE ESTABLISHED ON  
16 JANUARY 5, 2026, AND SHALL BE INITIALLY FILLED BY ELECTION AT  
17 THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

18 (3) THE NEW JUDGESHIPS FOR THE THIRTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
19 DISTRICT ADDED BY THE AMENDMENT OF 42 PA.C.S. § 911(A) SHALL  
20 BE ESTABLISHED ON JANUARY 3, 2028, AND SHALL BE INITIALLY  
21 FILLED BY ELECTION AT THE 2027 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

22 Section ~~3-4~~ 3. This act shall take effect immediately. <--