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**SENATE BILL 78**

**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003**

**INTRODUCED BY**

William E. Sharer

**AN ACT**

**RELATING TO JUDICIAL DISTRICTS; CREATING THE FOURTEENTH  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT; MODIFYING THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT;  
PROVIDING FOR ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS,  
PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATIONS, CONTRACTS AND OBLIGATIONS; MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION.**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:**

**Section 1. Section 34-6-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1941,  
Chapter 75, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:**

**"34-6-1. JUDICIAL DISTRICTS. --The state shall be divided  
into judicial districts as follows:**

**A. first judicial district, the counties of Santa  
Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos;**

**B. second judicial district, the county of  
Bernalillo;**

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1 C. third judicial district, the county of Dona Ana;

2 D. fourth judicial district, the counties of

3 Guadalupe, San Miguel and Mora;

4 E. fifth judicial district, the counties of Eddy,  
5 Chaves and Lea;

6 F. sixth judicial district, the counties of Grant,  
7 Luna and Hidalgo;

8 G. seventh judicial district, the counties of  
9 Socorro, Torrance, Sierra and Catron;

10 H. eighth judicial district, the counties of Taos,  
11 Colfax and Union;

12 I. ninth judicial district, the counties of Curry  
13 and Roosevelt;

14 J. tenth judicial district, the counties of Quay,  
15 DeBaca and Harding;

16 K. eleventh judicial district, the [counties]  
17 county of McKinley [~~and San Juan~~];

18 L. twelfth judicial district, the counties of Otero  
19 and Lincoln; [~~and~~]

20 M. thirteenth judicial district, the counties of  
21 Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia; and

22 N. fourteenth judicial district, the county of San  
23 Juan. "

24 Section 2. Section 34-6-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1968,  
25 Chapter 69, Section 17, as amended by Laws 1995, Chapter 178,

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1 Section 3 and also by Laws 1995, Chapter 179, Section 1) is  
2 amended to read:

3 "34-6-14. JUDGES--ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT. -- There  
4 shall be [six] two district judges in the eleventh judicial  
5 district. [~~The judges of divisions one, three, four and six~~  
6 ~~shall reside and maintain their principal offices in San Juan~~  
7 ~~county. The judges of divisions two and five shall reside and~~  
8 ~~maintain their principal offices in McKinley county.~~]"

9 Section 3. A new Section 34-6-16.1 NMSA 1978 is enacted  
10 to read:

11 "34-6-16.1. [NEW MATERIAL] JUDGES--FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL  
12 DISTRICT. -- There shall be four judges in the fourteenth  
13 judicial district. "

14 Section 4. TEMPORARY PROVISION--ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES,  
15 DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATIONS, CONTRACTS AND  
16 OBLIGATIONS. -- On the effective date of the provisions of this  
17 act:

18 A. judges serving in eleventh judicial district  
19 divisions one, three, four and six, who reside in San Juan  
20 county, are transferred to the fourteenth judicial district,  
21 together with all appropriations, personnel, money, records,  
22 furniture, equipment, office supplies and other things of value  
23 and all contracts, liabilities or other obligations  
24 attributable to those divisions;

25 B. judges serving in eleventh judicial district

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1 divisions two and five, who reside in McKinley county, shall  
2 remain in the eleventh judicial district and shall retain all  
3 appropriations, money, personnel, records, furniture,  
4 equipment, office supplies and other things of value and all  
5 contracts, liabilities or other obligations attributable to  
6 those divisions;

7 C. the district attorney serving in eleventh  
8 judicial district division one, composed of San Juan county, is  
9 transferred to the fourteenth judicial district, together with  
10 all appropriations, money, personnel, records, furniture,  
11 equipment, office supplies and other things of value and all  
12 contracts, liabilities or other obligations attributable to  
13 that division; and

14 D. the district attorney serving in eleventh  
15 judicial district division two, composed of McKinley county,  
16 shall remain in the eleventh judicial district and shall retain  
17 all appropriations, money, personnel, records, furniture,  
18 equipment, office supplies and other things of value and all  
19 contracts, liabilities or other obligations attributable to  
20 that division.

21 Section 5. APPROPRIATION. --Ninety thousand dollars  
22 (\$90,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the  
23 administrative office of the courts for expenditure in fiscal  
24 year 2004 to pay for salaries, benefits, office supplies,  
25 materials and other costs associated with the creation of a

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1 fourteenth judicial district. Any unexpended or unencumbered  
2 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2004 shall revert  
3 to the general fund.

4 Section 6. REPEAL. -- Sections 36-1-8.2 and 36-1-8.3 NMSA  
5 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 25, Sections 1 and 2, as  
6 amended) are repealed.

7 Section 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the  
8 provisions of this act is July 1, 2003.

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