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A bill to be entitled An act relating to juries; amending s. 40.015, F.S.; providing a method for establishing jury districts, boundaries; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 40.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

40.015 Jury districts; counties containing one judicial circuit; counties exceeding 50,000.--

(1) In any county that wholly contains one judicial circuit and that has one or more locations in addition to the county seat at which the county or circuit court sits and holds jury trials, the board of county commissioners may request the chief judge of the circuit court to create a jury district for each courthouse location, from which jury lists shall be selected in the manner presently provided by law, and the chief judge shall grant such a request so long as the board of county commissioners agrees to assume capital and operational costs associated with the jury district.

(2)(1) In any county having a population exceeding 50,000 according to the last preceding decennial census and one or more locations in addition to the county seat at which the county or circuit court sits and holds jury trials, the chief judge, with the approval of a majority of the circuit court judges of the circuit, is authorized to create a jury district for each courthouse location, from which jury lists shall be selected in the manner presently provided by law.

(3)(2) In determining the boundaries of a jury district to serve the court located within the district, the chief judge or the board shall seek to avoid any exclusion of any cognizable group. Each jury district shall include at least 6,000 registered voters.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that in any county that wholly contains one judicial circuit and that has one or more locations in addition to the county seat at which the county or circuit court sits and holds jury trials, the board of county commissioners may request the chief judge of the circuit court to create a jury district for each courthouse location, from which jury lists shall be selected in the manner provided by law, and the chief judge shall grant such a request provided that the board of county commissioners agrees to assume capital and operational expenses of the jury district.