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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to judges; amending s. 26.031, F.S.;
 increasing the number of circuit judges in certain
 judicial circuits; amending s. 34.022, F.S.;
 increasing the number of county court judges in
 certain counties; amending s. 35.06, F.S.; increasing
 the number of judges on the Sixth District Court of
 Appeal; providing for the reduction in the number of
 judges on the Second District Court of Appeal under
 specified conditions; providing a declaration of
 important state interest; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (2), (4), (5), (7) through (12),
 (14), (15), and (19) of section 26.031, Florida Statutes, are
 amended to read:

26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.—The number of
 circuit judges in each circuit shall be as follows:

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
(2) Second	<u>17</u> 16
(4) Fourth	<u>37</u> 35
(5) Fifth	<u>34</u> 31
(7) Seventh	<u>29</u> 27
(8) Eighth	<u>14</u> 13
(9) Ninth	<u>48</u> 46
(10) Tenth	<u>30</u> 28
(11) Eleventh	<u>83</u> 80

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(12) Twelfth.....24 22
 (14) Fourteenth.....14 13
 (15) Fifteenth.....37 35
 (19) Nineteenth.....20 19

Section 2. Subsections (3), (10), (26), (34), (40), (41),
 (43), (45), (49), (50), (53), and (60) of section 34.022,
 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

34.022 Number of county court judges for each county.—The
 number of county court judges in each county shall be as
 follows:

COUNTY	TOTAL
(3) Bay.....	<u>5</u> 4
(10) Clay.....	<u>3</u> 2
(26) Hernando.....	<u>3</u> 2
(34) Lake.....	<u>5</u> 4
(40) Manatee.....	<u>5</u> 4
(41) Marion.....	<u>5</u> 4
(43) Miami-Dade.....	<u>47</u> 43
(45) Nassau.....	<u>2</u> 1
(49) Osceola.....	<u>5</u> 4
(50) Palm Beach.....	<u>20</u> 19
(53) Polk.....	<u>11</u> 10
(60) Sumter.....	<u>2</u> 1

Section 3. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 35.06,
 Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new subsection (7) is added
 to that section, to read:

35.06 Organization of district courts of appeal.—A district
 court of appeal shall be organized in each of the six appellate

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59 districts to be named District Court of Appeal, District.
60 The number of judges of each district court of appeal shall be
61 as follows:

62 (2) Except as provided in subsection (7), in the second
63 district there shall be 15 judges.

64 (6) In the sixth district there shall be 11 ~~9~~ judges.

65 (7)(a) Effective July 1, 2025, upon each occurrence of a
66 vacancy in the office of judge of the second district, the
67 number of judges in the second district shall be reduced by 1
68 until 13 judges remain in the second district, and in the second
69 district there shall be 13 judges.

70 (b) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall notify the
71 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
72 House of Representatives of the occurrence of an event that
73 otherwise would have resulted in a vacancy in the office of
74 judge of the second district but instead results in the
75 reduction of a judgeship pursuant to paragraph (a).

76 Section 4. The Legislature finds and declares that this act
77 fulfills an important state interest.

78 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.