

1 AN ACT concerning associate judges.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Associate Judges Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 2 as follows:

6 (705 ILCS 45/2) (from Ch. 37, par. 160.2)

7 Sec. 2. (a) The maximum number of associate judges  
8 authorized for each circuit is the greater of the applicable  
9 minimum number specified in this Section or one for each  
10 35,000 or fraction thereof in population as determined by the  
11 last preceding Federal census, except for circuits with a  
12 population of more than 3,000,000 where the maximum number of  
13 associate judges is one for each 29,000 or fraction thereof  
14 in population as determined by the last preceding federal  
15 census, reduced in circuits of less than 200,000 inhabitants  
16 by the number of resident circuit judges elected in the  
17 circuit in excess of one per county. In addition, in  
18 circuits of 1,000,000 or more inhabitants, there shall be one  
19 additional associate judge authorized for each municipal  
20 district of the circuit court. The number of associate judges  
21 to be appointed in each circuit, not to exceed the maximum  
22 authorized, shall be determined from time to time by the  
23 Circuit Court. The minimum number of associate judges  
24 authorized for any circuit consisting of a single county  
25 shall be 14. The minimum number of associate judges  
26 authorized for any circuit consisting of 2 counties with a  
27 combined population of at least 275,000 but less than 300,000  
28 shall be 10. The minimum number of associate judges  
29 authorized for any circuit with a population of at least  
30 303,000 but not more than 309,000 shall be 10. The minimum  
31 number of associate judges authorized for any circuit with a

1 population of at least 329,000, but not more than 335,000  
2 shall be 11. The minimum number of associate judges  
3 authorized for any circuit with a population of at least  
4 173,000 ~~but not more than 177,000~~ shall be 5. As used in  
5 this Section, the term "resident circuit judge" has the  
6 meaning given it in the Judicial Vacancies Act.

7 (b) The maximum number of associate judges authorized  
8 under subsection (a) for a circuit with a population of more  
9 than 3,000,000 shall be reduced as provided in this  
10 subsection (b). For each vacancy that exists on or occurs on  
11 or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1990,  
12 that maximum number shall be reduced by one until the total  
13 number of associate judges authorized under subsection (a) is  
14 reduced by 60. A vacancy exists or occurs when an associate  
15 judge dies, resigns, retires, is removed, or is not  
16 reappointed upon expiration of his or her term; a vacancy  
17 does not exist or occur at the expiration of a term if the  
18 associate judge is reappointed.

19 (Source: P.A. 86-786; 86-1478; 87-145; 87-435; 87-1073;  
20 87-1230; 87-1261.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
22 becoming law.