



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

February 1, 2024

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S.163 – An act relating to establishing two Superior judge positions

As recommended by the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Draft 1.1

Bill Summary

This bill proposes to establish three new Superior Judge positions. Each position shall be for a six-year term of office and would be subject to the judicial retention process under Chapter II, § 34 of the Vermont Constitution.

Fiscal Impact

This bill would appropriate \$708,664 from the General Fund in fiscal year 2025 to cover costs associated with two judge positions and two judicial assistant positions. The third Superior Judge position would be funded by Tobacco Settlement Funds.

Section 1

This section creates three permanent exempt positions in the Judiciary. Although the bill does not fund or create any judicial assistant positions, these positions would need to be created as well. This would be a recurring cost. Each assistant position would cost \$84,709 annually. The total annual fiscal impact of this bill to the General Fund would be \$708,664. This bill would be effective as of July 1, 2024.

	Annual Salary	Number of Positions	Total Cost
Superior Judge	\$269,623	2	\$539,246
Judicial Assistant	\$84,709	2	\$169,418
		Total	\$708,664