

# As Passed by the House

124th General Assembly

Regular Session

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Am. Sub. H. B. No. 11

REPRESENTATIVES Webster, Cates, Jolivette, Womer Benjamin, Callender,  
Latta, Seitz, Faber, Willamowski, Jones, Young, Coates, Hoops, Aslanides,  
Setzer, Ford, Hollister, Evans, Rhine, Seaver, Schneider, Salerno

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## A B I L L

To amend sections 2301.02 and 2301.03 of the Revised 1  
Code to add one additional judge for the Juvenile 2  
Division of the Butler County Court of Common Pleas 3  
to be elected in 2002 and one additional judge to 4  
the Muskingum County Court of Common Pleas as judge 5  
of the Domestic Relations Division to be elected in 6  
2002 and to maintain the provisions of this act on 7  
and after January 1, 2002, by amending the version 8  
of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code that takes 9  
effect on that date. 10  
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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

**Section 1.** That sections 2301.02 and 2301.03 of the Revised 12  
Code be amended to read as follows: 13

**Sec. 2301.02.** The number of judges of the court of common 14  
pleas for each county, the time for the next election of the 15  
judges in the several counties, and the beginning of their terms 16  
shall be as follows: 17

(A) In Adams, Ashland, Fayette, and Pike counties, one judge, 18

elected in 1956, term to begin February 9, 1957; 19

In Brown, Crawford, Defiance, Highland, Holmes, Morgan,  
Ottawa, and Union counties, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term  
to begin February 9, 1955; 20 21 22

In Auglaize county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to  
begin January 9, 1957; 23 24

In Coshocton, Darke, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hardin,  
Jackson, Knox, Logan, Madison, Mercer, Monroe, Morrow, Paulding,  
Vinton, and Wyandot counties, one judge, to be elected in 1956,  
term to begin January 1, 1957; 25 26 27 28

In Carroll, Champaign, Clinton, Hocking, Meigs, Pickaway,  
Preble, Shelby, Van Wert, and Williams counties, one judge, to be  
elected in 1952, term to begin January 1, 1953; 29 30 31

In Harrison and Noble counties, one judge, to be elected in  
1954, term to begin April 18, 1955; 32 33

In Henry and Putnam counties, one judge, to be elected in  
1956, term to begin May 9, 1957; 34 35

In Huron county, one judge, to be elected in 1952, term to  
begin May 14, 1953; 36 37

In Perry county, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term to  
begin July 6, 1956; 38 39

In Sandusky county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,  
term to begin February 10, 1955, and one to be elected in 1978,  
term to begin January 1, 1979; 40 41 42

(B) In Allen county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,  
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1958,  
term to begin January 1, 1959, and the third to be elected in  
1992, term to begin January 1, 1993; 43 44 45 46

In Ashtabula county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 47

term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1960, term to  
begin January 1, 1961, and one to be elected in 1978, term to  
begin January 2, 1979;

In Athens county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term  
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1990, term to  
begin July 1, 1991;

In Erie county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1970,  
term to begin January 2, 1971;

In Fairfield county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954,  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970,  
term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be elected in  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;

In Geauga county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976,  
term to begin January 6, 1977;

In Greene county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,  
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960,  
term to begin January 1, 1961, the third to be elected in 1978,  
term to begin January 2, 1979, and the fourth to be elected in  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;

In Hancock county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952,  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in  
1978, term to begin January 1, 1979;

In Lawrence county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,  
term to begin February 9, 1955, and the second to be elected in  
1976, term to begin January 1, 1977;

In Marion county, three judges, one to be elected in 1952,  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1976,  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the third to be elected in

1998, term to begin February 9, 1999; 78

In Medina county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 79  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1966, 80  
term to begin January 1, 1967, and the third to be elected in 81  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995; 82

In Miami county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term 83  
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1970, term to 84  
begin on January 1, 1971; 85

In Muskingum county, ~~two~~ three judges, one to be elected in 86  
1968, term to begin August 9, 1969, ~~and~~ one to be elected in 1978, 87  
term to begin January 1, 1979, and one to be elected in 2002, term 88  
to begin January 2, 2003; 89

In Portage county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 90  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 91  
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in 92  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987; 93

In Ross county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 94  
to begin February 9, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976, 95  
term to begin January 1, 1977; 96

In Scioto county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 97  
term to begin February 10, 1955, the second to be elected in 1960, 98  
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in 99  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 100

In Seneca county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 101  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1986, 102  
term to begin January 2, 1987; 103

In Warren county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 104  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970, 105  
term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be elected in 106  
1986, term to begin January 1, 1987; 107

In Washington county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 108  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 1986, term 109  
to begin January 1, 1987; 110

In Wood county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968, term 111  
beginning January 1, 1969, the second to be elected in 1970, term 112  
to begin January 2, 1971, and the third to be elected in 1990, 113  
term to begin January 1, 1991; 114

In Belmont and Jefferson counties, two judges, to be elected 115  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 116  
respectively; 117

In Clark county, four judges, one to be elected in 1952, term 118  
to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1956, term 119  
to begin January 2, 1957, the third to be elected in 1986, term to 120  
begin January 3, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 1994, term 121  
to begin January 2, 1995. 122

In Clermont county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, 123  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1964, 124  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the third to be elected in 1982, 125  
term to begin January 2, 1983, and the fourth to be elected in 126  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987; 127

In Columbiana county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 128  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in 129  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; 130

In Delaware county, two judges, one to be elected in 1990, 131  
term to begin February 9, 1991, the second to be elected in 1994, 132  
term to begin January 1, 1995; 133

In Lake county, six judges, one to be elected in 1958, term 134  
to begin January 1, 1959, the second to be elected in 1960, term 135  
to begin January 2, 1961, the third to be elected in 1964, term to 136  
begin January 3, 1965, the fourth and fifth to be elected in 1978, 137  
terms to begin January 4, 1979, and January 5, 1979, respectively, 138

and the sixth to be elected in 2000, term to begin January 6, 139  
2001; 140

In Licking county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 141  
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1964, term to 142  
begin January 1, 1965, and one to be elected in 1990, term to 143  
begin January 1, 1991; 144

In Lorain county, eight judges, two to be elected in 1952, 145  
terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, respectively, 146  
one to be elected in 1958, term to begin January 3, 1959, one to 147  
be elected in 1968, term to begin January 1, 1969, two to be 148  
elected in 1988, terms to begin January 4, 1989, and January 5, 149  
1989, respectively, and two to be elected in 1998, terms to begin 150  
January 2, 1999, and January 3, 1999, respectively; 151

In Butler county, ~~eight~~ nine judges, one to be elected in 152  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; two to be elected in 1954, 153  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 154  
respectively; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 2, 155  
1969; one to be elected in 1986, term to begin January 3, 1987; 156  
two to be elected in 1988, terms to begin January 1, 1989, and 157  
January 2, 1989, respectively; ~~and~~ one to be elected in 1992, term 158  
to begin January 4, 1993; and one to be elected in 2002, term to 159  
begin January 2, 2003; 160

In Richland county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 161  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 162  
term to begin February 9, 1961, and the third to be elected in 163  
1968, term to begin January 2, 1969; 164

In Tuscarawas county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 165  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 166  
1960, term to begin January 2, 1961; 167

In Wayne county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 168  
beginning January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 1968, term to 169

begin January 2, 1969;

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In Trumbull county, six judges, one to be elected in 1952,  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1954,  
term to begin January 1, 1955, the third to be elected in 1956,  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the fourth to be elected in 1964,  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the fifth to be elected in 1976,  
term to begin January 2, 1977<sup>+</sup> and the sixth to be elected in  
1994, term to begin January 3, 1995;

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(C) In Cuyahoga county, thirty-nine judges; eight to be  
elected in 1954, terms to begin on successive days beginning from  
January 1, 1955, to January 7, 1955, and February 9, 1955,  
respectively; eight to be elected in 1956, terms to begin on  
successive days beginning from January 1, 1957, to January 8,  
1957; three to be elected in 1952, terms to begin from January 1,  
1953, to January 3, 1953; two to be elected in 1960, terms to  
begin on January 8, 1961, and January 9, 1961, respectively; two  
to be elected in 1964, terms to begin January 4, 1965, and January  
5, 1965, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin on  
January 10, 1967; four to be elected in 1968, terms to begin on  
successive days beginning from January 9, 1969, to January 12,  
1969; two to be elected in 1974, terms to begin on January 18,  
1975, and January 19, 1975, respectively; five to be elected in  
1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning January 6, 1977,  
to January 10, 1977; two to be elected in 1982, terms to begin  
January 11, 1983, and January 12, 1983, respectively; and two to  
be elected in 1986, terms to begin January 13, 1987, and January  
14, 1987, respectively;

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In Franklin county, twenty-one judges; two to be elected in  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955,  
respectively; four to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January  
1, 1957, to January 4, 1957; four to be elected in 1958, terms to  
begin January 1, 1959, to January 4, 1959; three to be elected in

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1968, terms to begin January 5, 1969, to January 7, 1969; three to  
be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning  
January 5, 1977, to January 7, 1977; one to be elected in 1982,  
term to begin January 8, 1983; one to be elected in 1986, term to  
begin January 9, 1987; two to be elected in 1990, terms to begin  
July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, respectively; and one to be  
elected in 1996, term to begin January 2, 1997;

In Hamilton county, twenty-one judges; eight to be elected in  
1966, terms to begin January 1, 1967, January 2, 1967, and from  
February 9, 1967, to February 14, 1967, respectively; five to be  
elected in 1956, terms to begin from January 1, 1957, to January  
5, 1957; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 1, 1965;  
one to be elected in 1974, term to begin January 15, 1975; one to  
be elected in 1980, term to begin January 16, 1981; two to be  
elected at large in the general election in 1982, terms to begin  
April 1, 1983; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1,  
1991; and two to be elected in 1996, terms to begin January 3,  
1997, and January 4, 1997, respectively;

In Lucas county, fourteen judges; two to be elected in 1954,  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955,  
respectively; two to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 1,  
1957, and October 29, 1957, respectively; two to be elected in  
1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953,  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3,  
1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 4, 1969;  
two to be elected in 1976, terms to begin January 4, 1977, and  
January 5, 1977, respectively; one to be elected in 1982, term to  
begin January 6, 1983; one to be elected in 1988, term to begin  
January 7, 1989; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin January  
2, 1991; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 2,  
1993;

In Mahoning county, seven judges; three to be elected in



1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and 234  
February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1956, term to 235  
begin January 1, 1957; one to be elected in 1952, term to begin 236  
January 1, 1953; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 237  
2, 1969; and one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 238  
1991; 239

In Montgomery county, fifteen judges; three to be elected in 240  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and January 241  
3, 1955, respectively; four to be elected in 1952, terms to begin 242  
January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, July 1, 1953, July 2, 1953, 243  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3, 244  
1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 3, 1969; 245  
three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days 246  
beginning January 4, 1977, to January 6, 1977; two to be elected 247  
in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, 248  
respectively; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 249  
1, 1993. 250

In Stark county, eight judges; one to be elected in 1958, 251  
term to begin on January 2, 1959; two to be elected in 1954, terms 252  
to begin on January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; 253  
two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and 254  
April 16, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to 255  
begin on January 4, 1967; and two to be elected in 1992, terms to 256  
begin January 1, 1993, and January 2, 1993, respectively; 257

In Summit county, eleven judges; four to be elected in 1954, 258  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, January 3, 1955, 259  
and February 9, 1955, respectively; three to be elected in 1958, 260  
terms to begin January 1, 1959, January 2, 1959, and May 17, 1959, 261  
respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin January 4, 262  
1967; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 5, 1969; 263  
one to be elected in 1990, term to begin May 1, 1991; and one to 264  
be elected in 1992, term to begin January 6, 1993. 265

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in any county 266  
having two or more judges of the court of common pleas, in which 267  
more than one-third of the judges plus one were previously elected 268  
at the same election, if the office of one of those judges so 269  
elected becomes vacant more than forty days prior to the second 270  
general election preceding the expiration of that judge's term, 271  
the office that that judge had filled shall be abolished as of the 272  
date of the next general election, and a new office of judge of 273  
the court of common pleas shall be created. The judge who is to 274  
fill that new office shall be elected for a six-year term at the 275  
next general election, and the term of that judge shall commence 276  
on the first day of the year following that general election, on 277  
which day no other judge's term begins, so that the number of 278  
judges that the county shall elect shall not be reduced. 279

Judges of the probate division of the court of common pleas 280  
are judges of the court of common pleas but shall be elected 281  
pursuant to sections 2101.02 and 2101.021 of the Revised Code, 282  
except in Adams, Harrison, Henry, Morgan, Morrow, Noble, and 283  
Wyandot counties in which the judge of the court of common pleas 284  
elected pursuant to this section also shall serve as judge of the 285  
probate division. 286

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the court 287  
of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 288  
1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1997, and 289  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 290  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 291  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and 292  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 293  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 294  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 295  
2151. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings under Chapter 296

3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has 297  
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 298  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. In 299  
addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is senior in 300  
point of service shall serve on the children services board and 301  
the county advisory board and shall be the administrator of the 302  
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments. 303

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(B)(1) In Hamilton county, the judge of the court of common 305  
pleas, whose term begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, and 306  
the judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins on 307  
February 14, 1967, and successors, shall be the juvenile judges as 308  
provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code, with the powers and 309  
jurisdiction conferred by that chapter. 310

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 311  
on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, and 312  
successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 313  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall have 314  
assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 315  
separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. On or 316  
after the first day of July and before the first day of August of 317  
1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the judges of the 318  
division of domestic relations shall elect one of the judges of 319  
the division as administrative judge of that division. If a 320  
majority of the judges of the division of domestic relations are 321  
unable for any reason to elect an administrative judge for the 322  
division before the first day of August, a majority of the judges 323  
of the Hamilton county court of common pleas, as soon as possible 324  
after that date, shall elect one of the judges of the division of 325  
domestic relations as administrative judge of that division. The 326  
term of the administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the 327  
first day of August of the year in which the administrative judge 328

is elected or the date on which the administrative judge is  
elected by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court  
of common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the  
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following year.

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the administrative  
judge of the division of domestic relations shall be the  
administrator of the domestic relations division and its  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases,  
including any referees considered necessary by the judges in the  
discharge of their various duties.

The administrative judge of the division of domestic  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall include  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an  
action pending in the division.

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the sum  
of money each year as will meet all the administrative expenses of  
the division of domestic relations, including reasonable expenses  
of the domestic relations judges and the division counselors and  
other employees designated to conduct the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases, conciliation and counseling, and  
all matters relating to those cases and counseling, and the

expenses involved in the attendance of division personnel at  
domestic relations and welfare conferences designated by the  
division, and the further sum each year as will provide for the  
adequate operation of the division of domestic relations.

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the salary  
and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county treasurer  
from the money appropriated for the operation of the division,  
upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to by the  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations.

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or staff  
investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any county or  
any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the provisions of  
law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in other cases shall  
apply insofar as they are applicable. When a summons, warrant,  
citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to an officer, other  
than a bailiff, constable, or staff investigator of the division,  
the expense of serving it shall be assessed as a part of the costs  
in the case involved.

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton ~~County~~  
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, shall be elected and  
designated for one term only as the drug court judge of the court  
of common pleas of Hamilton ~~County~~ county, and the successors to  
that judge shall be elected and designated as judges of the  
general division of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county  
and shall not have the authority granted by division (B)(3) of  
this section. The drug court judge may accept or reject any case  
referred to the drug court judge under division (B)(3) of this  
section. After the drug court judge accepts a referred case, the  
drug court judge has full authority over the case, including the  
authority to conduct arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and  
dispositions, conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment is

not successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence. 393  
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A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 395  
of Hamilton ~~County~~ county and a judge of the Hamilton ~~County~~ 396  
county municipal court may refer to the drug court judge any case, 397  
and any companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria 398  
described under divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section. If 399  
the drug court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the 400  
case, and any companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug 401  
court judge. A judge may refer a case meeting the criteria 402  
described in divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section that 403  
involves a violation of a term of probation to the drug court 404  
judge, and, if the drug court judge accepts the referral, the 405  
referring judge and the drug court judge have concurrent 406  
jurisdiction over the case. 407

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 408  
of Hamilton ~~County~~ county and a judge of the Hamilton ~~County~~ 409  
county municipal court may refer a case to the drug court judge 410  
under division (B)(3) of this section if the judge determines that 411  
both of the following apply: 412

(a) One of the following applies: 413

(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in 414  
section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third 415  
or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 416  
1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 417  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor. 418

(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in section 419  
2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or 420  
fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a 421  
felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is 422  
committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, and the 423  
defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of becoming 424

drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from treatment. 425

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(b) All of the following apply: 427

(i) The case involves a probationable offense or a case in 428  
which a mandatory prison term is not required to be imposed. 429

(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior. 430

(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness. 431

(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is 432  
drug or alcohol driven. 433

(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to 434  
participate in a fifteen-month treatment process. 435

(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition. 436

(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor 437  
approves of the referral. 438

(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common pleas 439  
of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases pending 440  
before the drug court judge does not constitute a sufficient 441  
caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative judge, in 442  
accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Common 443  
Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the drug court judge from 444  
the general docket of the court. If the assignments so occur, the 445  
administrative judge shall cease the assignments when the 446  
administrative judge determines that the volume of cases pending 447  
before the drug court judge constitutes a sufficient caseload for 448  
the drug court judge. 449

(C) In Lorain county, the judges of the court of common pleas 450  
whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 451  
2, 1999, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 452  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 453  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 454

Lorain county and shall be elected and designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas.

(D)(1) In Lucas county, the judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them.

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of the work of the division and the employment and supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations division.

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code with the powers and jurisdictions



conferred by that chapter. In addition to the judge's regular  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division,  
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments and shall  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the  
personnel of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees considered  
necessary by the judges of the division in the discharge of their  
various duties.

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division,  
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title,  
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties  
of the personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in  
addition to other statutory duties include the handling,  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an  
action pending in the division.

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed by  
the judges of the other of those divisions.

(E)(1) In Mahoning county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas whose term began on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of  
the court of common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce,

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 519  
coming before the court. In addition to the judge's regular 520  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, division of 521  
domestic relations, shall be the administrator of the domestic 522  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 523  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 524  
personnel of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or 525  
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 526  
and annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary 527  
in the discharge of the various duties of the judge's office. 528

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 529  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 530  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 531  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 532  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 533  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 534  
legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling and 535  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 536  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 537  
action pending in the division. 538

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term began 539  
on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 540  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 541  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 542  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 543  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 544  
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapter 2151. of the 545  
Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by that 546  
chapter. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 547  
the court of common pleas, juvenile division, shall be the 548  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 549  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 550

and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including  
any referees considered necessary by the judge in the discharge of  
the judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling,  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an  
action pending in the division.

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of  
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that  
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court of  
common pleas.

(F)(1) In Montgomery county, the judges of the court of  
common pleas whose terms begin on January 2, 1953, and January 4,  
1977, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise  
the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of  
Montgomery county and shall be elected and designated as judges of  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. These  
judges shall have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases.

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the assignment  
and division of the work of the division and shall have charge of  
the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division

engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 583  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 584  
including any necessary referees, except those employees who may 585  
be appointed by the judge, junior in point of service, under this 586  
section and sections 2301.12, 2301.18, and 2301.19 of the Revised 587  
Code. The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 588  
point of service, also shall designate the title, compensation, 589  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 590  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. 591

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 592  
on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 593  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 594  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 595  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be elected 596  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 597  
division, and shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, 598  
the juvenile judge as provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised 599  
Code. 600

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 601  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 602  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 603  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 604  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 605  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 606  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 607  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 608  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 609  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 610  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 611  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 612  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 613  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 614

whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the  
division.

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, division  
of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the court of common  
pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform  
that judge's duties or the volume of cases pending in that judge's  
division necessitates it, the duties of that judge may be  
performed by the judge or judges of the other of those divisions.

(G) In Richland county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other  
judges of the court of common pleas of Richland county and shall  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations. That judge shall have all of the  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter  
2151. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over which  
the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be  
assigned to that judge, except in cases that for some special  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common  
pleas.

(H) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common pleas  
whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and January  
1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same qualifications,  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Stark  
county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under  
Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce,

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases,  
except cases that are assigned to some other judge of the court of  
common pleas for some special reason, shall be assigned to the  
judges.

The judge of the division of domestic relations, second most  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in  
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary  
referees required for the judge's respective court.

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the  
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 2151.18  
of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division of the  
work of the division and the employment and supervision of all  
other personnel of the division, including, but not limited to,  
that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those employees who  
may be appointed by the judge second most senior in point of  
service. The senior judge further shall serve in every other  
position in which the statutes permit or require a juvenile judge  
to serve.

(I) In Summit county:

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin  
on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of  
the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be elected  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic  
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases  
that come before the court. Except in cases that are subject to

the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the  
judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned  
to them and hear all cases pertaining to paternity, custody,  
visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental rights  
and responsibilities for the care of children and all post-decree  
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those  
matters. The judges of the division of domestic relations shall  
have assigned to them and hear all proceedings under the uniform  
interstate family support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the  
Revised Code.

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and shall  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the  
personnel of the division, including any necessary referees, who  
are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases.  
That judge also shall designate the title, compensation, expense  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and  
of any counseling and conciliation services that are available  
upon request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an  
action pending in the division.

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated as  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall

be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as  
provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code. Except in cases  
that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the  
juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile division shall not have  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any  
case pertaining to paternity, custody, visitation, child support,  
or the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the  
care of children or any post-decree proceeding arising from any  
case pertaining to any of those matters. The judge of the juvenile  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and  
shall not be assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate  
family support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code.

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the juvenile  
division and its subdivisions and departments and shall have  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the  
personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating  
juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the title,  
compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons,  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the  
division.

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977,  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county and



shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter  
2151. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over which  
the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be  
assigned to them, except cases that for some special reason are  
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas.

(K) In Butler county:

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin  
on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of  
the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be elected  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic  
relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the  
court, except in cases that for some special reason are assigned  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas. The judge senior  
in point of service shall be charged with the assignment and  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations  
division.

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate the  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence,  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases and providing any counseling and  
conciliation services that the division makes available to

persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action  
pending in the division, who request the services.

(2) The ~~judge~~ judges of the court of common pleas whose ~~term~~  
~~begins~~ terms begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall  
be elected and designated as judge judges of the court of common  
pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge judges  
as provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code, with the powers  
and jurisdictions conferred by that chapter. The judge of the  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is senior in point  
of service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division  
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge, senior in point  
of service, shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and  
supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases,  
including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the  
discharge of the judge's various duties.

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling and  
conciliation services that the division makes available to  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action  
pending in the division, who request the services.

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties

of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions.

(L)(1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of common  
pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1961,  
January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, and  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county and  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the  
powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are assigned  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some special  
reason.

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the domestic  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and has  
the following powers concerning division personnel:

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and  
supervision;

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses,  
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations.

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or referees  
engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, counseling, or  
conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation  
and annulment matters.

(M) In Lake county:

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins  
on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and designated as

judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 838  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 839  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 840  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 841  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 842  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 843  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 844  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 845  
division. 846

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 847  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 848  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 849  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 850  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 851  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 852  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 853  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 854  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 855  
services. 856

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 857  
on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 858  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 859  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 860  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 861  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 862  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapter 2151. of the Revised 863  
Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by that chapter. 864  
The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, shall 865  
be the administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions 866  
and departments. The judge shall have charge of the employment, 867  
assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the juvenile 868  
division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 869

juvenile cases, including any referees whom the judge considers  
necessary for the discharge of the judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the  
services.

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions.

(N) In Erie county, the judge of the court of common pleas  
whose term begins on January 2, 1971, and successors, shall have  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judge  
of the court of common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected  
and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating  
to juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapter  
2151. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over which the  
juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, except cases that  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge.

(O) In Greene county:

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins

on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and designated  
as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support  
enforcement, and domestic violence cases and all other cases  
related to domestic relations, except cases that for some special  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common  
pleas.

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division  
of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge also  
shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of absence,  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their  
duties. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing,  
and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases and the provision of counseling  
and conciliation services that the division considers necessary  
and makes available to persons who request the services, whether  
or not the persons are parties in an action pending in the  
division. The compensation for the personnel shall be paid from  
the overall court budget and shall be included in the  
appropriations for the existing judges of the general division of  
the court of common pleas.

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins  
on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and designated as

judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and, on or  
after January 1, 1995, shall be the juvenile judge as provided in  
Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code with the powers and jurisdiction  
conferred by that chapter. The judge of the court of common pleas,  
juvenile division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile  
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling,  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any referees  
whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of the  
judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the court  
makes available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties  
to an action pending in the court, who request the services.

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of the  
general division shall be performed by the judge of the division  
of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile division.

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other  
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall be  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all

divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 965  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 966  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 967  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 968  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 969  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 970  
division. 971

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 972  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 973  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 974  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 975  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 976  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 977  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 978  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 979  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 980  
services. 981

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 982  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 983  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 984  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 985  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 986  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 987  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 988  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 989  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 990  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 991  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 992  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 993  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 994  
division. 995

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 996



expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the  
services.

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common pleas,  
whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall have the  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction,  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court  
of common pleas of Warren county and shall be elected and  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division  
of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations  
division.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the

services. 1029

(S) In Licking county, the judge of the court of common 1030  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1991, and successors, shall 1031  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1032  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1033  
judges of the court of common pleas of Licking county and shall be 1034  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1035  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1036  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1037  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, 1038  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1039  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and 1040  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1041  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1042  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1043  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1044  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 1045  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1046  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1047  
of the division. 1048

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1049  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1050  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1051  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1052  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1053  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1054  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1055  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1056  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1057  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1058  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1059  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 1060

conciliation services that the division makes available to 1061  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1062  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1063

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1064  
whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the 1065  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1066  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1067  
of common pleas of Allen county and shall be elected and 1068  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1069  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1070  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1071  
all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 1072  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1073  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1074  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1075  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1076  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1077  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1078  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 1079  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1080  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1081  
of the division. 1082

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1083  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1084  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1085  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1086  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1087  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1088  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1089  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1090  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1091  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1092

the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1093  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 1094  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1095  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1096  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1097

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1098  
whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1099  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1100  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1101  
common pleas of Medina county and shall be elected and designated 1102  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1103  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1104  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1105  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1106  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1107  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1108  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1109  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1110  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1111  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 1112  
of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1113  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1114  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1115

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1116  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1117  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1118  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1119  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1120  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1121  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1122  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1123  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1124

for the care of children and the designation for the children of a  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who  
request the services.

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and shall  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code,  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings,  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge also has  
concurrent jurisdiction with the probate-juvenile division of the  
court of common pleas of Fairfield county with respect to and may  
hear cases to determine the custody of a child, as defined in  
section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of  
another court of this state, cases that are commenced by a parent,  
guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011  
of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the  
child to pay child support for that child when the request for  
that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution  
of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil

action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases.

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be charged with the assignment and division of the work of the division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division.

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and conciliation services that the division makes available to persons, regardless of whether the persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the services. When the judge hears a case to determine the custody of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of another court of this state or a case that is commenced by a parent, guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the child to pay child support for that child when the

request for that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 1189  
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a 1190  
criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic 1191  
violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised 1192  
Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original 1193  
jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of 1194  
common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation 1195  
that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the 1196  
duties of the personnel of the domestic relations division also 1197  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of those types 1198  
of cases. 1199

(W)(1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 1200  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1201  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1202  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1203  
the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be elected and 1204  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 1205  
relations division. The judge shall have all the powers relating 1206  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. of the 1207  
Revised Code and all parentage proceedings under Chapter 3111. of 1208  
the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction 1209  
shall be assigned to the judge of the division of domestic 1210  
relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1211  
annulment, uniform reciprocal support enforcement, and other cases 1212  
related to domestic relations shall be assigned to the domestic 1213  
relations division, and the presiding judge of the court of common 1214  
pleas shall assign the cases to the judge of the domestic 1215  
relations division and the judges of the general division. 1216

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 1218  
the division of domestic relations shall serve on the children 1219  
services board and the county advisory board. 1220

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1221  
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or unable 1222  
to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the presiding judge 1223  
of the court of common pleas of Clark county determines that the 1224  
volume of cases pending in the division of domestic relations 1225  
necessitates it, the duties of the judge of the division of 1226  
domestic relations shall be performed by the judges of the general 1227  
division or probate division of the court of common pleas of Clark 1228  
county, as assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of 1229  
that court, and the judges so assigned shall act in conjunction 1230  
with the judge of the division of domestic relations of that 1231  
court. 1232

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1233  
whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1234  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1235  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1236  
common pleas of Scioto county and shall be elected and designated 1237  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1238  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1239  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1240  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1241  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1242  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1243  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1244  
parenting time, visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and 1245  
matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in cases 1246  
that for some special reason are assigned to another judge of the 1247  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1248  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1249  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1250

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1251  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1252



personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1253  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1254  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1255  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1256  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1257  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1258  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1259  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1260  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1261  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 1262  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1263  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1264  
request the services. 1265

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and juvenile 1266  
divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas also shall 1267  
be the administrative judge of the domestic relations division of 1268  
the court and shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1269  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 1270  
court. The judge shall have all powers as administrator of the 1271  
domestic relations division and shall have charge of the personnel 1272  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1273  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1274  
including any referees considered necessary for the discharge of 1275  
the judge's various duties. 1276

(Z)(1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1277  
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1278  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 1279  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the 1280  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion county and 1281  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1282  
pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as 1283  
otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the 1284

successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to  
juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. of the Revised  
Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code,  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and  
annulment cases, all proceedings involving child support, the  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of  
children and the designation for the children of a place of  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases  
and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge and the successors  
to that judge. Except as provided in division (Z)(2) of this  
section and notwithstanding any other provision of any section of  
the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2003, the judge of the  
court of common pleas of Marion county whose term begins on  
February 9, 1999, and the successors to that judge, shall have all  
the powers relating to the probate division of the court of common  
pleas of Marion county in addition to the powers previously  
specified in this division, and shall exercise concurrent  
jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of that court  
over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate  
division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other provisions,  
of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of the  
domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court  
otherwise specified in division (Z)(1) of this section.

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the  
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of  
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total length  
of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county,  
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve as  
the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of  
Marion county.

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to both "the probate division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being references to both "the judge of the probate division" and "the judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of Marion county.

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and shall be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts and shall be assigned all cases under Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children, the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas.

(BB) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge shall be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas of that county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of the court of common pleas of that county to act in place of or in conjunction with that judge, as the case may require.

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2301.02 and 2301.03 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

**Section 3.** That the version of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2002, be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1997, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is senior in point of service shall serve on the children services board and the county advisory board and shall be the administrator of the

domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments. 1379

1380

(B) In Hamilton county: 1381

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins 1382

on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the court of 1383

common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, and 1384

successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 1385

2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and 1386

jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 1387

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 1388

on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, and 1389

successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 1390

of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall have 1391

assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1392

separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. On or 1393

after the first day of July and before the first day of August of 1394

1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the judges of the 1395

division of domestic relations shall elect one of the judges of 1396

the division as administrative judge of that division. If a 1397

majority of the judges of the division of domestic relations are 1398

unable for any reason to elect an administrative judge for the 1399

division before the first day of August, a majority of the judges 1400

of the Hamilton county court of common pleas, as soon as possible 1401

after that date, shall elect one of the judges of the division of 1402

domestic relations as administrative judge of that division. The 1403

term of the administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the 1404

first day of August of the year in which the administrative judge 1405

is elected or the date on which the administrative judge is 1406

elected by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court 1407

of common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 1408

administrative judge's successor is elected in the following year. 1409

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the administrative 1410  
judge of the division of domestic relations shall be the 1411  
administrator of the domestic relations division and its 1412  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 1413  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1414  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1415  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1416  
including any referees considered necessary by the judges in the 1417  
discharge of their various duties. 1418

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1419  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1420  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1421  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 1422  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 1423  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall include 1424  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution 1425  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 1426  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 1427  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 1428  
action pending in the division. 1429

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the sum 1430  
of money each year as will meet all the administrative expenses of 1431  
the division of domestic relations, including reasonable expenses 1432  
of the domestic relations judges and the division counselors and 1433  
other employees designated to conduct the handling, servicing, and 1434  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1435  
separation, and annulment cases, conciliation and counseling, and 1436  
all matters relating to those cases and counseling, and the 1437  
expenses involved in the attendance of division personnel at 1438  
domestic relations and welfare conferences designated by the 1439  
division, and the further sum each year as will provide for the 1440  
adequate operation of the division of domestic relations. 1441

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the salary 1442  
and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county treasurer 1443  
from the money appropriated for the operation of the division, 1444  
upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to by the 1445  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations. 1446

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 1447  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or staff 1448  
investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any county or 1449  
any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the provisions of 1450  
law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in other cases shall 1451  
apply insofar as they are applicable. When a summons, warrant, 1452  
citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to an officer, other 1453  
than a bailiff, constable, or staff investigator of the division, 1454  
the expense of serving it shall be assessed as a part of the costs 1455  
in the case involved. 1456

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton ~~County~~ 1457  
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, shall be elected and 1458  
designated for one term only as the drug court judge of the court 1459  
of common pleas of Hamilton ~~County~~ county, and the successors to 1460  
that judge shall be elected and designated as judges of the 1461  
general division of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county 1462  
and shall not have the authority granted by division (B)(3) of 1463  
this section. The drug court judge may accept or reject any case 1464  
referred to the drug court judge under division (B)(3) of this 1465  
section. After the drug court judge accepts a referred case, the 1466  
drug court judge has full authority over the case, including the 1467  
authority to conduct arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and 1468  
dispositions, conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment is 1469  
not successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence. 1470

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 1472  
of Hamilton ~~County~~ county and a judge of the Hamilton ~~County~~ 1473

county municipal court may refer to the drug court judge any case, 1474  
and any companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria 1475  
described under divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section. If 1476  
the drug court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the 1477  
case, and any companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug 1478  
court judge. A judge may refer a case meeting the criteria 1479  
described in divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section that 1480  
involves a violation of a term of probation to the drug court 1481  
judge, and, if the drug court judge accepts the referral, the 1482  
referring judge and the drug court judge have concurrent 1483  
jurisdiction over the case. 1484

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 1485  
of Hamilton ~~County~~ county and a judge of the Hamilton ~~County~~ 1486  
county municipal court may refer a case to the drug court judge 1487  
under division (B)(3) of this section if the judge determines that 1488  
both of the following apply: 1489

(a) One of the following applies: 1490

(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in 1491  
section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third 1492  
or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1493  
1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 1494  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor. 1495

(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in section 1496  
2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or 1497  
fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a 1498  
felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is 1499  
committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, and the 1500  
defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of becoming 1501  
drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from treatment. 1502

(b) All of the following apply: 1504



(i) The case involves a probationable offense or a case in which a mandatory prison term is not required to be imposed.

(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior.

(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness.

(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is drug or alcohol driven.

(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to participate in a fifteen-month treatment process.

(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition.

(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor approves of the referral.

(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases pending before the drug court judge does not constitute a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative judge, in accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Common Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the drug court judge from the general docket of the court. If the assignments so occur, the administrative judge shall cease the assignments when the administrative judge determines that the volume of cases pending before the drug court judge constitutes a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge.

(C) In Lorain county, the judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Lorain county and shall be elected and designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all

cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all 1535  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 1536  
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1537  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except 1538  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other 1539  
judge of the court of common pleas. 1540

(D) In Lucas county: 1541

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 1542  
on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, shall 1543  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1544  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1545  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be elected and 1546  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 1547  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1548  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 1549

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1550  
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 1551  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 1552  
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 1553  
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of all 1554  
other personnel of the domestic relations division. 1555

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 1556  
on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors shall have 1557  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1558  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1559  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected and 1560  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1561  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 1562  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 1563  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 1564  
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1565  
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 1566

administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment,  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including  
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division in  
the discharge of their various duties.

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division,  
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title,  
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties  
of the personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in  
addition to other statutory duties include the handling,  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an  
action pending in the division.

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed by  
the judges of the other of those divisions.

(E) In Mahoning county:

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term began  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic  
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the  
court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the

court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall be 1599  
the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 1600  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 1601  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1602  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1603  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1604  
including any referees considered necessary in the discharge of 1605  
the various duties of the judge's office. 1606

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1607  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1608  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1609  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1610  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1611  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1612  
legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling and 1613  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 1614  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 1615  
action pending in the division. 1616

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term began 1617  
on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 1618  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1619  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1620  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 1621  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 1622  
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 1623  
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 1624  
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 1625  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 1626  
shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and its 1627  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 1628  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 1629  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile 1630

cases, including any referees considered necessary by the judge in 1631  
the discharge of the judge's various duties. 1632

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1633  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 1634  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1635  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1636  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1637  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and 1638  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 1639  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 1640  
action pending in the division. 1641

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1642  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1643  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 1644  
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 1645  
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court of 1646  
common pleas. 1647

(F) In Montgomery county: 1648

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 1649  
on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, shall 1650  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1651  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1652  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 1653  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 1654  
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 1655  
to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1656  
and annulment cases. 1657

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1658  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the assignment 1659  
and division of the work of the division and shall have charge of 1660  
the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division 1661

engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases,  
including any necessary referees, except those employees who may  
be appointed by the judge, junior in point of service, under this  
section and sections 2301.12, 2301.18, and 2301.19 of the Revised  
Code. The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in  
point of service, also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties.

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin  
on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be elected  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile  
division, and shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of,  
the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the  
Revised Code.

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases.  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence,  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons,

whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 1694  
division. 1695

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, division 1696  
of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the court of common 1697  
pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1698  
that judge's duties or the volume of cases pending in that judge's 1699  
division necessitates it, the duties of that judge may be 1700  
performed by the judge or judges of the other of those divisions. 1701

(G) In Richland county, the judge of the court of common 1702  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall 1703  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1704  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1705  
judges of the court of common pleas of Richland county and shall 1706  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1707  
division of domestic relations. That judge shall have all of the 1708  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 1709  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings 1710  
over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 1711  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1712  
shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases that for some 1713  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 1714  
common pleas. 1715

(H) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common pleas 1716  
whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and January 1717  
1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 1718  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1719  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Stark 1720  
county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 1721  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 1722  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 1723  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1724  
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 1725

all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1726  
annulment cases, except cases that are assigned to some other 1727  
judge of the court of common pleas for some special reason, shall 1728  
be assigned to the judges. 1729

The judge of the division of domestic relations, second most 1730  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 1731  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 1732  
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 1733  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary 1734  
referees required for the judge's respective court. 1735

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1736  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 1737  
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 2152.71 1738  
of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division of the 1739  
work of the division and the employment and supervision of all 1740  
other personnel of the division, including, but not limited to, 1741  
that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those employees who 1742  
may be appointed by the judge second most senior in point of 1743  
service. The senior judge further shall serve in every other 1744  
position in which the statutes permit or require a juvenile judge 1745  
to serve. 1746

(I) In Summit county: 1747

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 1748  
on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, shall 1749  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1750  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1751  
the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be elected 1752  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 1753  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic 1754  
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all divorce, 1755  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1756  
that come before the court. Except in cases that are subject to 1757



the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the 1758  
judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned 1759  
to them and hear all cases pertaining to paternity, custody, 1760  
visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental rights 1761  
and responsibilities for the care of children and all post-decree 1762  
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 1763  
matters. The judges of the division of domestic relations shall 1764  
have assigned to them and hear all proceedings under the uniform 1765  
interstate family support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the 1766  
Revised Code. 1767

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 1768  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 1769  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 1770  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1771  
personnel of the division, including any necessary referees, who 1772  
are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1773  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases. 1774  
That judge also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1775  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1776  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1777  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1778  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1779  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1780  
of any counseling and conciliation services that are available 1781  
upon request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 1782  
action pending in the division. 1783

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1784  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 1785  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1786  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1787  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated as 1788  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1789

be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as 1790  
provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. Except 1791  
in cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction 1792  
of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile division shall 1793  
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 1794  
assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, custody, visitation, 1795  
child support, or the allocation of parental rights and 1796  
responsibilities for the care of children or any post-decree 1797  
proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any of those 1798  
matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not have 1799  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any 1800  
proceeding under the uniform interstate family support act 1801  
contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 1802

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the juvenile 1803  
division and its subdivisions and departments and shall have 1804  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1805  
personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 1806  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 1807  
juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the title, 1808  
compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and 1809  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 1810  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 1811  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 1812  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 1813  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 1814  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 1815  
division. 1816

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 1817  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 1818  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1819  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 1820  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county and 1821

shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings  
over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases  
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common  
pleas.

(K) In Butler county:

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin  
on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of  
the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be elected  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic  
relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the  
court, except in cases that for some special reason are assigned  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas. The judge senior  
in point of service shall be charged with the assignment and  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations  
division.

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate the  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence,  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases and providing any counseling and

conciliation services that the division makes available to  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action  
pending in the division, who request the services.

(2) The ~~judge~~ judges of the court of common pleas whose ~~term~~  
~~begins~~ terms begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall  
be elected and designated as ~~judge~~ judges of the court of common  
pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile ~~judge~~ judges  
as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with  
the powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. The  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is  
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge,  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment,  
assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the juvenile  
division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating  
juvenile cases, including any referees whom the judge considers  
necessary for the discharge of the judge's various duties.

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling and  
conciliation services that the division makes available to  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action  
pending in the division, who request the services.

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or

unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions.

(L)(1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of common  
pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1961,  
January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, and  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county and  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the  
powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are assigned  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some special  
reason.

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the domestic  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and has  
the following powers concerning division personnel:

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and  
supervision;

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses,  
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations.

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or referees  
engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, counseling, or  
conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation  
and annulment matters.

(M) In Lake county:

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins  
on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and

receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and designated as  
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division  
of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations  
division.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the  
services.

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins  
on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of  
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by  
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and  
its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of

the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of  
the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the  
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's various  
duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the  
services.

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions.

(N) In Erie county, the judge of the court of common pleas  
whose term begins on January 2, 1971, and successors, shall have  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judge  
of the court of common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected  
and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of  
domestic relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating  
to juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapters  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases,  
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some

other judge. 1981

(O) In Greene county: 1982

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1983  
on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1984  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1985  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1986  
common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and designated 1987  
as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1988  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1989  
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support 1990  
enforcement, and domestic violence cases and all other cases 1991  
related to domestic relations, except cases that for some special 1992  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1993  
pleas. 1994

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1995  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1996  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge also 1997  
shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of absence, 1998  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 1999  
duties. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition 2000  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 2001  
and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2002  
separation, and annulment cases and the provision of counseling 2003  
and conciliation services that the division considers necessary 2004  
and makes available to persons who request the services, whether 2005  
or not the persons are parties in an action pending in the 2006  
division. The compensation for the personnel shall be paid from 2007  
the overall court budget and shall be included in the 2008  
appropriations for the existing judges of the general division of 2009  
the court of common pleas. 2010

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 2011  
on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 2012



qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and designated as  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and, on or  
after January 1, 1995, shall be the juvenile judge as provided in  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and  
jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. The judge of the court  
of common pleas, juvenile division, shall be the administrator of  
the juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The  
judge shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and  
supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases,  
including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the  
discharge of the judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the court  
makes available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties  
to an action pending in the court, who request the services.

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of the  
general division shall be performed by the judge of the division  
of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile division.

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other

judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall be  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations  
division.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce,  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the  
services.

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and

supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 2077  
division. 2078

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2079  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2080  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 2081  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 2082  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2083  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 2084  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 2085  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 2086  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 2087  
services. 2088

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 2089  
whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall have the 2090  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 2091  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 2092  
of common pleas of Warren county and shall be elected and 2093  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 2094  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 2095  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 2096  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 2097  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 2098  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 2099  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 2100  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 2101  
division. 2102

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 2103  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2104  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 2105  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 2106  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 2107  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 2108

providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 2109  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 2110  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 2111  
services. 2112

(S) In Licking county, the judge of the court of common 2113  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1991, and successors, shall 2114  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2115  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2116  
judges of the court of common pleas of Licking county and shall be 2117  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2118  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2119  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 2120  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, 2121  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 2122  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and 2123  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2124  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 2125  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 2126  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 2127  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 2128  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 2129  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 2130  
of the division. 2131

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2132  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2133  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2134  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2135  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 2136  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 2137  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 2138  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 2139  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2140

responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 2141  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2142  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 2143  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 2144  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 2145  
pending in the division, who request the services. 2146

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 2147  
whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the 2148  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 2149  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 2150  
of common pleas of Allen county and shall be elected and 2151  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 2152  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 2153  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2154  
all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 2155  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 2156  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 2157  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2158  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 2159  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 2160  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 2161  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 2162  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 2163  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 2164  
of the division. 2165

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2166  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2167  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2168  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2169  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 2170  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 2171  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 2172

under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 2173  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2174  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 2175  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2176  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 2177  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 2178  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 2179  
pending in the division, who request the services. 2180

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common pleas 2181  
whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the 2182  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 2183  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 2184  
common pleas of Medina county and shall be elected and designated 2185  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 2186  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 2187  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 2188  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 2189  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2190  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 2191  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2192  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 2193  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 2194  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 2195  
of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 2196  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 2197  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 2198

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2199  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2200  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2201  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 2202  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 2203  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 2204

legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 2205  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 2206  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 2207  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 2208  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 2209  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 2210  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 2211  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 2212  
request the services. 2213

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 2214  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 2215  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2216  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 2217  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and shall 2218  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 2219  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 2220  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 2221  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, 2222  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 2223  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and 2224  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 2225  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 2226  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 2227  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 2228  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge also has 2229  
concurrent jurisdiction with the probate-juvenile division of the 2230  
court of common pleas of Fairfield county with respect to and may 2231  
hear cases to determine the custody of a child, as defined in 2232  
section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 2233  
another court of this state, cases that are commenced by a parent, 2234  
guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 2235  
of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the 2236

child to pay child support for that child when the request for 2237  
that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution 2238  
of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 2239  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 2240  
support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action that 2241  
is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 2242  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 2243  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child is 2244  
an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 2245  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 2246

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be charged 2247  
with the assignment and division of the work of the division and 2248  
with the employment and supervision of the personnel of the 2249  
division. 2250

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2251  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2252  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2253  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 2254  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 2255  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 2256  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 2257  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 2258  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 2259  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 2260  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 2261  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 2262  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 2263  
persons, regardless of whether the persons are parties to an 2264  
action pending in the division, who request the services. When the 2265  
judge hears a case to determine the custody of a child, as defined 2266  
in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 2267  
another court of this state or a case that is commenced by a 2268



parent, guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2269  
2151.011 of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a 2270  
parent of the child to pay child support for that child when the 2271  
request for that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 2272  
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a 2273  
criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic 2274  
violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised 2275  
Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original 2276  
jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of 2277  
common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation 2278  
that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the 2279  
duties of the personnel of the domestic relations division also 2280  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of those types 2281  
of cases. 2282

(W)(1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 2283  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 2284  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 2285  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 2286  
the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be elected and 2287  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 2288  
relations division. The judge shall have all the powers relating 2289  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 2290  
of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings under Chapter 2291  
3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has 2292  
jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the division of 2293  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 2294  
separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support enforcement, and 2295  
other cases related to domestic relations shall be assigned to the 2296  
domestic relations division, and the presiding judge of the court 2297  
of common pleas shall assign the cases to the judge of the 2298  
domestic relations division and the judges of the general 2299  
division. 2300

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of  
the division of domestic relations shall serve on the children  
services board and the county advisory board.

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark  
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or unable  
to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the presiding judge  
of the court of common pleas of Clark county determines that the  
volume of cases pending in the division of domestic relations  
necessitates it, the duties of the judge of the division of  
domestic relations shall be performed by the judges of the general  
division or probate division of the court of common pleas of Clark  
county, as assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of  
that court, and the judges so assigned shall act in conjunction  
with the judge of the division of domestic relations of that  
court.

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common pleas  
whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall have the  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction,  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of  
common pleas of Scioto county and shall be elected and designated  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian,  
parenting time, visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and  
matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in cases  
that for some special reason are assigned to another judge of the  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the

employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 2333

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 2334  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 2335  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 2336  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 2337  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 2338  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 2339  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 2340  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 2341  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 2342  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 2343  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 2344  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 2345  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 2346  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 2347  
request the services. 2348

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and juvenile 2349  
divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas also shall 2350  
be the administrative judge of the domestic relations division of 2351  
the court and shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 2352  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 2353  
court. The judge shall have all powers as administrator of the 2354  
domestic relations division and shall have charge of the personnel 2355  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 2356  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 2357  
including any referees considered necessary for the discharge of 2358  
the judge's various duties. 2359

(Z)(1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 2360  
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 2361  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 2362  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the 2363  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion county and 2364

shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common  
pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as  
otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the  
successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to  
juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of  
the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge  
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division  
(Z)(2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of  
any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2003,  
the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county whose term  
begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to that judge,  
shall have all the powers relating to the probate division of the  
court of common pleas of Marion county in addition to the powers  
previously specified in this division, and shall exercise  
concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of  
that court over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of  
the probate division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other  
provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of  
the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court  
otherwise specified in division (Z)(1) of this section.

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the  
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of  
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total length  
of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county,

regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve as  
the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of  
Marion county.

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect  
to Marion county, as being references to both "the probate  
division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division"  
and as being references to both "the judge of the probate  
division" and "the judge of the domestic relations-  
juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all  
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be  
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to  
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this  
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of  
common pleas of Marion county.

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, shall  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other  
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and shall  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of  
the powers relating to juvenile courts and shall be assigned all  
cases under Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has  
jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal  
separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter  
3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities  
for the care of children, the designation for the children of a  
place of residence and legal custodian, and visitation, and all

post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 2429  
proceedings, except cases that for some special reason are 2430  
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas. 2431

(BB) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 2432  
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 2433  
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 2434  
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 2435  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge shall 2436  
be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas of that 2437  
county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of the 2438  
court of common pleas of that county to act in place of or in 2439  
conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 2440

**Section 4.** That the existing version of section 2301.03 of 2441  
the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2002, 2442  
is hereby repealed. 2443

**Section 5.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act shall take effect 2444  
January 1, 2002. 2445

**Section 6.** Section 2301.03 of the Revised Code is presented 2446  
in Section 3 of this act as a composite of the section as amended 2447  
by both Am. Sub. S.B. 179 and Am. Sub. S.B. 180 of the 123rd 2448  
General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle 2449  
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 2450  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 2451  
simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting 2452  
version of the section in effect on and after January 1, 2002. 2453