

## Session 126 - (2025-2026)

**H\*4805 (Rat #0205, Act #0154 of 2026) General Bill, By W. Newton, C. Mitchell, B. Newton, Pope, White, Robbins and Hart**

**Summary:** Judicial Seats

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 14-5-610, RELATING TO THE DIVISION OF THE STATE INTO SIXTEEN JUDICIAL CIRCUITS, THE NUMBER OF JUDGES TO BE ELECTED FROM EACH CIRCUIT, AND THE ELECTION OF AT-LARGE JUDGES WITHOUT REGARD TO COUNTY OR CIRCUIT OF RESIDENCE, SO AS TO CONVERT THREE AT-LARGE CIRCUIT COURT SEATS TO RESIDENT SEATS AND CREATE FOUR NEW JUDGESHIPS; BY AMENDING SECTION 63-3-40, RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF FAMILY COURT JUDGES TO BE ELECTED FROM EACH CIRCUIT, SO AS TO CONVERT FOUR AT-LARGE FAMILY COURT SEATS TO RESIDENT SEATS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 9-8-60, RELATING TO RETIREMENT OF JUDGES, SOLICITORS, AND CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDERS, SO AS TO REQUIRE EIGHT YEARS OF EARNED SERVICE RATHER THAN TEN. - RATIFIED TITLE

12/16/25	House	Prefiled
12/16/25	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary
01/13/26	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 96)
01/13/26	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 96)
01/20/26	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: White
03/31/26	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Robbins
03/31/26	House	Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (House Journal-page 210)
04/01/26	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hart
04/01/26	House	Amended (House Journal-page 22)
04/01/26	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 22)
04/01/26	House	Roll call Yeas-109 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 24)
04/02/26	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 37)
04/07/26	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 3)
04/07/26	Senate	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 3)
05/05/26	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 45)
05/05/26	Senate	Roll call Ayes-45 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 45)
05/06/26	Senate	Read third time and enrolled (Senate Journal-page 82)
05/14/26		Ratified R 205
05/15/26		Signed By Governor
05/26/26		Effective date 05/15/26
05/26/26		Act No. 154