

Senate Bill No. 554

(By Senators Browning and Green)

[Introduced February 18, 2011; referred to the Committee on the
Judiciary; and then to the Committee on Finance.]

**FISCAL
NOTE**

A BILL to amend and reenact §50-1-9a of the Code of West Virginia,
1931, as amended, relating to increasing the number of
allowable magistrate court deputy clerks; and designating an
additional deputy clerk for Raleigh County.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §50-1-9a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. COURTS AND OFFICERS.

§50-1-9a. Magistrate court deputy clerks; duties; salary.

(a) Whenever required by workload and upon the recommendation
of the judge of the circuit court, or the chief judge of the
circuit court if there is more than one judge of the circuit court,
the Supreme Court of Appeals may, by rule, provide for the
appointment of magistrate court deputy clerks, not to exceed
~~seventy-two~~ seventy-three in number and, effective July 1, 2011,

1 the number of magistrate court deputy clerks allowed for Raleigh
2 County is increased by one from the number authorized on June 30,
3 2011. The magistrate court deputy clerks shall be appointed by the
4 judge of the circuit court, or the chief judge if there is more
5 than one judge of the circuit court, to serve at his or her will
6 and pleasure under the immediate supervision of the magistrate
7 court clerk.

8 (b) Magistrate court deputy clerks shall have the duties,
9 clerical or otherwise, as may be assigned by the magistrate court
10 clerk and as may be prescribed by the rules of the Supreme Court of
11 Appeals or the judge of the circuit court or the chief judge if
12 there is more than one judge of the circuit court. Magistrate
13 court deputy clerks may also exercise the power and perform the
14 duties of the magistrate court clerk as may be delegated or
15 assigned by the magistrate court clerk.

16 (c) A magistrate court deputy clerk may not be an immediate
17 family member of any magistrate, magistrate court clerk, magistrate
18 assistant or judge of the circuit court within the same county, may
19 not have been convicted of a felony or any misdemeanor involving
20 moral turpitude and must reside in this state. For purposes of
21 this subsection, "immediate family member" means a mother, father,
22 sister, brother, child or spouse.

23 (d) Magistrate court deputy clerks shall be paid an annual
24 salary by the state on the same basis and in the same amounts

1 established for magistrate assistants in each county, as provided
2 in section nine of this article.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to increase, by one, the number of magistrate court deputy clerks that may be appointed and provide that the additional deputy clerk be appointed in Raleigh County.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.