

Chairperson:	Brad Ashford
Committee:	Judiciary
Date of Hearing:	February 6, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

This bill is intended to provide an eighth judge to the Third Judicial District of Lancaster County District Court. The Court is quickly approaching a high caseload making it difficult for the Court to hear civil cases in a timely manner due to the Constitutional priority given to criminal cases.

The Third Judicial District Court faces unique challenges in that it hears administrative appeals and cases from state agencies and commissions as well as cases of first impression (cases without existing caselaw or precedent), which take substantially longer to hear in a thorough and responsible manner. For these reasons, an additional judge is needed for the Third Judicial District of Lancaster County.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Bill Avery