

**Subject** Judiciary finance bill

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## Overview

This is the judiciary finance bill.

## Article 1: Judiciary Appropriations

This article appropriates money for the supreme court, court of appeals, district courts, Board of Civil Legal Aid, Guardian ad Litem Board, tax court, Uniform Laws Commission, Board on Judicial Standards, Board of Public Defense, Department of Human Rights, Office of Appellate Counsel and Training, Competency Attainment Board, Cannabis Expungement Board, and Secretary of State. It reduces unspent appropriations from prior years and authorizes the Judicial Branch to charge a fee for electronic access to certain court records and information.

## Article 2: Judiciary Policy

This article contains policy provisions related to the judiciary.

### Section Description – Article 2: Judiciary Policy

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- 1 Restorative practice participant data.**  
Classifies data collected, created, or maintained by a government entity that identifies restorative practices program participants as private data on individuals. Establishes exceptions for approved disclosure and personnel data.
- 2 Report.**  
Requires the director of the Office of Restorative Practices to include information on grantees in the director's annual report to the legislature. Requires grant recipients to provide relevant information to the office by November 15 of each year.

**Section Description – Article 2: Judiciary Policy**

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- 3 Statewide Office of Appellate Counsel and Training; establishment.**  
Clarifies that the Statewide Office of Appellate Counsel and Training is an agency in the executive branch.
- 4 State Board of Appellate Counsel and Training; structure; membership.**  
Requires the governor to designate the initial chair of the board.
- 5 Head appellate counsel for parents; assistant attorneys; other employees.**  
Replaces the requirement that assistant appellate counsel be paid on a schedule comparable to county attorneys and treats those employees like employees in other agencies. Specifies that attorneys who are not identified as being in a management position are in the classified service and treats those employees like employees in other agencies.
- 6 Report to legislature.**  
Requires the State Board of Civil Legal Aid to provide a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the judiciary on the case data for whom the funded legal aid agencies assist. The data would be aggregate data on their service areas or geographic regions of the state the agencies serve, and would be submitted each year in July, at the end of the fiscal year.
- 7 Annual report to the legislature.**  
Requires the Guardian Ad Litem Board to submit a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over judiciary finance identifying the number of: board staff; children served by guardians ad litem in court cases, including the number of Native American children in certain cases; court reports filed by guardians ad litem; cases assigned; hours worked; complaints regarding guardians ad litem submitted to the board; investigations performed by the board; and complaints that resulted in discipline. Requires that the information not include data on individuals, but requires that the data be disaggregated by paid staff versus volunteers.
- 8 Deputy sheriff and court administrator; St. Louis County.**  
Removes the limitation on filing papers with the deputy court administrator in relation to proceedings in Duluth.
- 9 Papers where filed; St. Louis County.**  
Eliminates the requirement that certain papers must be filed in specific locations in St. Louis County and authorizes filing at any court in the county.

**Section Description – Article 2: Judiciary Policy**

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- 10      **Requirement.**  
Removes the provision limiting certain orders related to divorce proceedings to two pages.
- 11      **Definitions.**  
Changes the definition of “custodian” from any person (other than the petitioner or respondent) who is under a legal obligation to care for a minor child or who is caring for a minor child to a person (other than the petitioner or respondent) who has physical or legal custody as the mother of a child, a person who has court ordered custody or parenting time, or who has physical or legal custody with the consent of a custodial parent.
- 12      **Reports; appointment of visitor; monitoring; court orders.**  
Requires reports of conservators to be provided to the person subject to conservatorship and to other interested persons of record.
- 13      **Inadmissibility; exceptions.**  
Establishes that statements and documents offered by participants during a restorative practice are not admissible. Specifies that the privilege does not exempt mandatory reports from complying with the provisions requiring reporting of maltreatment of children or vulnerable adults. Also establishes exceptions allowing disclosure of information necessary to prevent reasonably certain death, great bodily harm, or criminal activity and allowing disclosure when the information relates to professional misconduct by a participant. Allows disclosure of information to verify to a court that a person ordered to participate in a program is participating.
- 14      **Dismissal of criminal charge.**  
Makes a conforming change related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.
- 15      **Forensic navigator monitoring.**  
Clarifies that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged with or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals. Specifies that forensic navigators are not authorized to conduct searches, seize property or persons, or impose sanctions.
- 16      **Procedure.**  
Makes a conforming change related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.

**Section Description – Article 2: Judiciary Policy**

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- 17 **Continued supervision or monitoring.**  
Removes references to forensic navigators supervising individuals charged with or convicted of a crime. Specifies that the court can direct forensic navigators to monitor those individuals.
- 18 **Duties.**  
Makes conforming changes related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.
- 19 **Establishment; membership.**  
Removes the requirement that one member of the Competency Attainment Board have prior experience working as a forensic navigator.
- 20 **Availability and certification.**  
Removes the requirement that the Competency Attainment Board provide or contract for enough competency attainment services to meet the needs of defendants in each judicial district and directs the board to use available resources to provide those services.
- 21 **Program evaluation.**  
Directs the state court administrator, instead of the Competency Attainment Board, to identify certain information needed to evaluate the program. Removes the requirement that the data include whether a forensic navigator was assigned to a case.

**Article 3: Real Property; Foreclosures**

Applies the postponement of a foreclosure sale that is allowed in foreclosures by advertisement (administrative foreclosures) to be used in the same manner in foreclosures by action (a foreclosure that occurs through a court action). The article would be effective for foreclosure notices recorded on or after August 1, 2025.

**Section Description – Article 3: Real Property; Foreclosures**

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- 1 **Postponement by mortgage.**  
Allows a mortgagee (the lender or financial institution holding the mortgage) to postpone a foreclosure in a foreclosure by action (a foreclosure that was brought in court), using the same process as a sale is postponed in a foreclosure that does not go through the court.

**Section Description – Article 3: Real Property; Foreclosures**

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**2 Postponement by mortgagor or owner.**

Allows a homeowner or the person responsible for the mortgage to postpone a foreclosure sale in a foreclosure by action (a foreclosure that was brought in court), in the same way it would be done in a foreclosure that does not go through the court.

**3 Application, certain sections.**

Clarifies that the postponement of foreclosure sale statutes that apply to nonjudicial foreclosure also apply to judicial foreclosures.

## **Article 4: Uniform Special Deposits Act**

This article is based off a Uniform Law Commission model bill, the Uniform Special Deposits Act. A special deposit is a bank deposit that is intended for a person or purpose but is paid out based on the occurrence of an event. As of 2025, the Uniform Special Deposits Act has been adopted in law by Colorado, Delaware, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, and Washington.

**Section Description – Article 4: Uniform Special Deposits Act**

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**1 Title.**

Provides the title to these sections of law may be referred to as the “Uniform Special Deposits Act.”

**2 Definitions.**

Provides definitions related to the application of the article sections.

**3 Scope; choice of law; forum.**

Provides the scope for the application of the law to deposits in this state.

**4 Variation by agreement of amendment.**

Provides that sections of the article will be applicable to special deposits even if the terms of an agreement are not consistent with the law.

**5 Requirements of special deposits.**

Provides the required elements to make a bank deposit a special deposit and trigger the application of these sections.

**Section Description – Article 4: Uniform Special Deposits Act**

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- 6      **Permissible purpose.**  
Requires a special deposit to serve a permissible purpose and specifies when the sections of this article would apply.
- 7      **Payment to beneficiary by bank.**  
Requires payment to beneficiary when there are funds to do so, or to divide available funds pro rata when there is more than one beneficiary.
- 8      **Property interest of depositor or beneficiary.**  
Provides that neither the depositor nor the beneficiary has a property interest in the deposit but instead has the right to receive payment based on the terms of the deposit.
- 9      **When creditor process enforceable against bank.**  
Provides guidance on when a bank can act on an attachment, garnishment, or lien seeking the special deposit.
- 10     **Injunction or similar relief.**  
Allows a court to prevent the payment to a depositor or beneficiary if there is fraud related to the deposit.
- 11     **Recoupment or set off.**  
Allows a bank to recoup fees from a special deposit account under certain circumstances.
- 12     **Duties and liability of bank.**  
Provides that special deposit accounts do not trigger a fiduciary duty and that the bank and beneficiary, at the time the deposit becomes owed, is a debtor-creditor relationship. A beneficiary can sue for damages if the bank does not pay the beneficiary when the money is owed.
- 13     **Term and termination.**  
Ends a special deposit after five years and provides where funds go when the special deposit terminates.
- 14     **Transitional provision.**  
Provides that these sections apply to special deposits made on or after August 1, 2025, and to deposits made before that date when everyone agrees to apply the new law and updates the terms of any agreements related to the deposit.

## Article 5: Government Data Practices

This article contains provisions related to the Government Data Practices Act (Minn. Stat. ch. 13).

### Section Description – Article 5: Government Data Practices

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- 1 Request for access to data.**  
Provides that a government entity may suspend an ongoing response to a public data request if, after five business days, the requesting person does not appear to inspect requested data or collect copies of requested data that the government entity has already prepared for that person.
- 2 Student health and census data.**  
Removes the current private classification for data on parents. This is moved to subdivision 5 of this statute in section 3 of this article.
- 3 Directory information; data on parents.**  
Reinserts the private classification for data on parents, with the new additional restriction that personal contact information may not be designated or treated as directory information.
- 4 Personnel data: public data.**  
Expands the existing “public official” exception regarding data relating to a complaint or charge against a government employee to include Metropolitan Council members and certain Metropolitan Council employees.
- 5 Judicial official data; personal information.**  
Inserts a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 10 of this article.
- 6 Drug overdose data: review.**  
From the prehospital care data for emergency responses that the Office of Emergency Medical Services collects from ambulance services, allows the director of the Office of Emergency Medical Services to share the following data with the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area’s Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP): data that identifies where and when an overdose incident happens, fatality status, suspected drug type, naloxone administration, and first responder type. Describes the operation of ODMAP.
- 7 Judicial official data: definitions.**  
Inserts a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 10 of this article.

**Section Description – Article 5: Government Data Practices**

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**8 Judicial official data: exceptions.**

Inserts a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 10 of this article, and updates exceptions in a related statute. Adds a new exception for real estate or mapping platforms.

**9 Judicial official data: removal of personal information; exception.**

Inserts a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 10 of this article, and updates exceptions in a related statute.

**10 Judicial official data: personal information in real property records.**

Creates a new statute allowing the personal information of judicial officials contained in real property records to be kept private.

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines key terms for this section, many of which cross-reference definitions in the existing statute protecting the personal information of judicial officials.

**Subd. 2. Classification of data.** If notice procedures in subdivision 3 are properly executed, classifies as private the personal information of judicial officials in real property records and authorizes remedies and penalties under chapter 13.

**Subd. 3. Notification.** Provides a procedure for judicial officials to notify keepers of real property records that the judicial official wishes the personal information in those records to be private under subdivision 2.

**Subd. 4. Access to real property records.** Sets forth the specific requirements and exceptions for the property records of a judicial official that are classified as private.

**Subd. 5. Access to personal information in real property records; title examination.** Sets forth the specific requirements for when the property records of a judicial official that are classified as private are subject to a title examination or requested by certain specified persons.

**Subd. 6. Service fees to county recorder or other government entity.** Allows county recorders or others to charge specified fees for certain documents or procedures authorized under this section.



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