

KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19855

	Proposed No. 2024-0311.2 Sponsors Zahilay
1	AN ORDINANCE documenting approval of the fifty-fifth
2	and fifty-sixth judge positions of the King County superior
3	court.
4	STATEMENT OF FACTS:
5	1. The King County superior court has fifty-four authorized judges to
6	serve a growing case load commensurate with the county's expanding
7	population and the increasing complexity of adjudicating cases.
8	2. RCW 2.08.061 authorizes King County to have a total of fifty-eight
9	superior court judges serving county residents.
10	3. Section 8, Chapter 189, Laws of Washington 1992, allows King
11	County to add additional judges up to the fifty-eight-judge limit whenever
12	the county's "legislative authority documents its approval of any additional
13	positions and its agreement that it will pay out of county funds, without
14	reimbursement from the state, the expense of such additional judicial
15	positions as provided by statute."
16	4. The original July 1, 1996, deadline for council action adding additional
17	judges was removed by Section 3, Chapter 208, Laws of Washington
18	1996, while retaining preauthorization for fifty-eight total positions.
19	BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

1

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20	SECTION 1. The county legislative authority approves adding to the King		
21	County superior court a fifty-fifth and a fifty-sixth judge position to commence office on		
22	January 1, 2025. By this action the council has now approved ten of the twelve		
23	additional King County superior court judges authorized by RCW 2.08.061, raising the		
24	total number of superior court judges for King County to fifty-six.		
25	SECTION 2. By this ordinance, the county legislative authority indicates its		
26	willingness and agreement to pay for the two additional judges of the superior court.		
27	Unless moneys are subsequently appropriated by the state, the positions shall be funded		
28	by county moneys, without reimbursement from the state, the expense of such additional		
29	judicial positions as provided by statute.		
30	SECTION 3. A copy of this ordinance shall be transmitted by the executive to the		

Ordinance 19855

- 31 Governor of the state of Washington for appointment of the two additional superior court
- 32 judges in accordance with the Washington Constitution and RCW 2.08.069.

Ordinance 19855 was introduced on 10/8/2024 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/19/2024, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Melani Hay BDE1BB375AD3422... Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of __12/2/2024 ____, ____

Signed by: on Constanti

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

docusign

Certificate Of Completion

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Melani Hay melani.hay@kingcounty.gov

Clerk of the Council

King County Council Security Level: Email, Account Authentication

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Dow Constantine

Dow.Constantine@kingcounty.gov

King County Executive

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