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# The General Assembly Sinte Capitol Atlanta

TO: THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

> REPORT OF THE SENATE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES STUDY COMMITTEE

#### THE COMMITTEE

HONORABLE FLOYD HUDGINS, CHAIRMAN SENATOR, 15TH DISTRICT

> HONORABLE ROY E. BARNES SENATOR, 33RD DISTRICT

HONORABLE TODD EVANS SENATOR, 37TH DISTRICT

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January 1978

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#### INTRODUCTION

During the 1977 session of the General Assembly, the Georgia Senate passed Senate Resolution 103 creating the Senate Juvenile Judge Qualifications Study Committee (see Appendix A). The authorizing Resolution cited several reasons which led to this action. They were:

- --- the increase in juvenile crime delinquency over the past several years;
- --- the increased caseload on courts handling juvenile cases;
- -- the need for individual attention to the problems,
  background, and rehabilitation of each juvenile
  brought before the court.

The Resolution directed the Committee "...to do all things it deems necessary to investigate and study the issues of juvenile judge qualifications and problems related thereto...." Earlier study by the Senate through the 1976 Senate Study Committee on Status Offenders had also recognized that attention should be given to the selection and training of juvenile court judges and the funds available for the operation of juvenile courts.

The Resolution further gave the Committee authority to appoint an advisory group to help in its investigation and study. Civic groups, State agencies, and other interested individuals were selected to the Advisory Committee in the Committee's meeting on June 27, 1977 (see Appendix B).

In its organizational meeting on June 27, 1977, and July 11 and 12, 1977, the Committee and Advisory Group clarified the alternatives they would study to be:

 Make no change in the methods for juvenile court judge selection and training.

2. Require all juvenile court judges to attend training sessions in handling juveniles.

3. Require all judges with juvenile court

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jurisdiction to attend annual training sessions in handling juveniles.

4. Mandate a different process for selecting juvenile court judges.

5. Establish a uniform juvenile court system Statewide.

6. Explore possible funding methods for the alternatives.

# GEORGIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Because the basic philosophy of the juvenile court process is prevention and rehabilitation rather than punishment, jurisdiction of the juvenile court is not limited to juveniles who have committed criminal offenses. Instead, jurisdiction of the juvenile court extends to the following categories of juveniles: (i) neglected or dependent children, (2) children who have committed criminal acts, and (3) children who have exhibited certain deviant, but not necessarily criminal, behavior.

#### A. Judges Hearing Juvenile Cases in Georgia

At present, according to the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges, in Georgia, jurisdiction over juveniles is exercised by three types of Judges: (1) juvenile court judges (full- and part-time), (2) State court judges, and (3) superior court Judges. These judges are disbursed in the following numbers:

- -- 8 full-time juvenile court judges,
- -- 37 part-time juvenile court judges (6 of these being State court judges who are also part-time juvenile court judges), and
- -- 38 superior court judges who hear juvenile court cases in 108 counties.

#### B. Legal Provisions in Georgia for Juvenile Courts

- 1. Counties having 50,000 population.
- 2. Counties with less than 50,000 population upon

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recommendation of two successive grand juries. They may be abolished by two grand juries with concurrence of the superior court judge.

3. All counties with less than 50,000 population where a juvenile court has not been established; and in counties with more than 50,000 population where a local Act so provides, a // judge of the superior court sits as the juvenile court judge.

#### C. Current Juvenile Caseload by Types of Judges

During the summer of 1977, the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges supplied the Committee with the following figures on 1975 juvenile caseloads. At the time the data was compiled, there were only 7 full-time juvenile court judges and 38 part-time judges, with only 33 of these supplying information.

 7 full-time juvenile court judges had a caseload of 21,333, with an average of 3,048 cases in 1975 per judge.

2. 33 part-time juvenile court judges had a caseload of 19,999, with an average of 582 cases in 1975 per judge.

3. 38 superior court judges disposed of 7,742 juvenile cases during 1975, with an average of 204 cases per judge.

These are very general figures to depict the activities of the types of judges handling juvenile cases. The Committee realizes the cases are not evenly distributed, as the averages might indicate. Appendix C provides a breakdown of cases by county.

# D. Qualifications and Selection Method of Judges with Juvenile Jurisdiction

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1. Juvenile Court Judges:

Qualifications: Must be 30 years of age, a citizen of Georgia for three years, and have three years' experience in the practice of law. May not engage in practice of law in juvenile court.

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Sec. 1.

<u>Selection</u>: The judge or a majority of judges of the superior court presiding over the county where the juvenile court is located appoints the juvenile court judge for a period of six years and is eligible for reappointment.

<u>Pay</u>: 'Salary of the juvenile court judge is paid from county funds. The superior court judge sets the salary except in those counties where it is fixed by legislative Act.

2. Superior Court Judges:

Qualifications: Must be 30 years of age, a citizen of the State for three years, and have seven years' experience in the practice of law. They are prohibited from practicing law while in commission.

<u>Selection</u>: <u>Superior court judges</u> are elected by the electors of their circuits for four-year terms and are eligible for reelection. If a vacancy occurs by death, resignation, or other causes, the vacancy is filled by appointment of the Governor for the unexpired term. <u>Pay</u>: The salary of superior court judges is set by law and is paid by the State.

#### FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Five of the nine meetings held by the Committee were devoted to hearing testimony from full- and part-time juvenile court judges, superior court judges and professionals who deal with youths in trouble. A complete listing of those testifying and programs visited are found in Appendix D.

#### A. Training

Unlike most professions, judges have little preservice training available. Given the sensitivity of juvenile matters, it is critical that judges hearing such matters begin service well prepared. Each new judge should have initial training in developments in juvenile law and recent court decisions and in dispositional alternatives available which should include visits

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to various programs and facilities. Most of those testifying agreed on the need for training for all judges dealing with juveniles.

Periodic in-service training should at least include case and statutory law, judicial philosophy, child development and psychology, causes of delinquency and family breakdown and alternative resources and placements for juveniles. Training should be Statewide with materials on resources available localized. (Ingoing training should be a part of the judges' normal responsibilities and not be considered vacation time. There was some disagreement from the judges testifying as to whether training should be mandated by the judiciary or the legislature.

Currently there is no mandatory training for juvenile court judges in Georgia, but the Council of Juvenile Court Judges offers optional training annually and many times the judges personally bear the cost of attending. The Committee believes that training should be mandatory and the related costs should be paid by the State.

# B. Qualifications and Pay

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During the past ten years, the Supreme Court and State Appellate Courts have ruled regularly on luvenile court proceedings, interpreting laws and procedures, construing the application of State and federal constitutional provisions and determining what constitutional distinctions should be drawn between the juvenile and adult process. The juvenile justice system has become a complex legal arena and is not just an informal counseling or sentencing session. For this reason, it is very important that the juvenile court be conducted by a highly skilled lawyer. Most of the judges testifying agreed that the qualifications for those hearing juvenile cases should be the same as superior court judges. The juvenile court judge, by virtue of the office, plays a leadership role in the local community in terms of the community's view of juveniles and the development of services to children and their families. He

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should be keenly interested in the problems of children and their families and aware of the contributions of other fields such as psychiatry, psychology, and social work in the identification and treatment of these problems.

There were several judges testifying that felt previous experience in domestic relations, family matters and juvenile law should be required.

The testimony given reenforces the Committee's view that the pay for juvenile court judges should be the same as superior court judges.

It is extremely important that the juvenile court attract qualified personnel and in order to do so the pay must be adequate. The juvenile court, correction and treatment system ideally should prevent the children exposed to it from later ending up in the adult courts and correctional systems. The Committee feels that until these systems are staffed by trained, qualified people who are adequately paid, this ideal can never become a reality.

#### C. Method of Selection

Since the majority of adult felons begin their criminal careers as juvenile delinquents, it is important that at an early age they should be exposed to judges who are best qualified to hear their cases. This necessitates a selection system which is based on qualification and is removed from partisan politics.

During the hearings, there was controversy as to the best method of selecting juvenile court judges with no one being adamant about continuing with the current method. Appointment by the Governor with nominations from a selection committee (similar to the process of filling vacancies of the superior and State court judges) or appointment by the superior court judge with nominations from a local selection committee were both suggested. No one testifying was in favor of partisan elections for juvenile court judges since most of the work of a judge in juvenile matters is confidential and records are closed. Several of the testifiers proposed a combination system of initial appointment

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for a specified term with the judge's name then being placed on the ballot for a yes or no vote with no opposition. If he was not elected, the appointment method would then be used to fill the vacancy. The general consensus of the Committee is that juvenile court judges should not be involved in partisan politics, or elected, but should be responsible to the community and society at large. They should be subject to the same standards of discipline and removal for cause as superior court judges.

# D. Jurisdiction over Juveniles

One of the most complex issues the Committee dealt with was the fragmented methods that Georgia now has for dealing with juveniles, with different circuits having full-time and/or part-time juvenile court judges and other circuits having neither. Much testimony was given in support and in onposition to the family court concept and suggestions were made that a division of superior court should deal with all juvenile cases.

The Committee supports the concept of a special court to deal with juveniles. It is felt that by focusing attention to this specific area, important decisions on the future of a child's life can be given the time, investigation and evaluation that is needed. There are problems with having a part-time judge presiding over such a court. Currently, the selaries for part-time juvenile judges vary greatly and most of them are not paid for time spent in training or actual hours devoted to juvenile cases. The judge must devote time to his law practice or other business in order to make a living, and participation in training and/or sporadically heavy caseload places a any tremendous strain on the allocation of his time. This situation is unfair to the judge and the children and families of the cases involved.

Another inequity exists in areas of the State that have no juvenile court judge. The superior court judge must fulfill the duties of both. In order to meet the necessary legal time constraints of hearings for juveniles, a superior court judge may

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have to call a recess in the middle of a civil or criminal trial to make a decision on the future of a child. The superior court dockets are already overburdened and the additional responsibility for juvenile matters places the judge in an extremely difficult position. In many instances the judges must rely heavily on referees who have no legal training.

The importance of the juvenile justice system is well stated in the Report of the National Task Force on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention:

"Children become youth, youth become adults, and adults become parents and employees or employers who contribute to American life. A growing population, a rapidly changing society, the heightened divorce rate, and the greater incidence of delinquency and child neglect and abuse have resulted in substantially increased judicial system intervention into the life experiences of even more American families. More children now have not only a stepparent, but also a judge, probation officer, or a protective services agency social worker. It is especially critical that Judicial decisions that pertain to children and youth be determined both on law and on those considerations that are most likely to lead to constructive citizenship."

The Committee recognizes the importance of the role of the juvenile justice system in the lives of families and children and feels that the court portion of this system should be acknowledged as vital and critical. For these reasons, the Committee feels that Georgia should have a Statewide juvenile court system with full-time judges. The child and the family in each Georgia community should have access to a court which has the time and expertise to deal with their unique problems.

While the statistics for juvenile court cases appear to indicate great regional or geographical imbalances, there are contributing factors.

In many areas of the State, time constraints on the

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judge and lack of appropriate community resources for use by the court many times results in juvenile cases which need judicial attention not coming before the judge. Often when a juvenile court judge and community resources become available, the number of court-handled juvenile cases increases.

There has also been some concern expressed regarding juvenile court judges relating to a circuit as is done with superior court judges. As discussed previously, superior court judges have been handling the juvenile cases of most counties, if a circuit judge's sole responsibility was with juveniles, it should be possible for the judge with an appropriate caseload to be used in this same method effectively.

In order to accomplish the necessary changes in Georgia's complex system of juvenile justice, the Committee feels that a circuit system of juvenile courts would be best. Each circuit would have a full- and/or part-time juvenile court judge based on the at-risk population of the circuit. The salary of the judge would also be based on the population at risk so that part-time judges would be paid adequately.

#### E. Eunding

The testimony and reports received by the Committee reflect vast differences in pay and support personnel available in the existing juvenile courts in Georgia. The Committee findings, which emphasize the importance of the juvenile court, the necessity of well-paid, qualified and trained judges, and the need for a Statewide juvenile court system, lead to the need for State funding for such a system.

Counties which have juvenile courts have assumed a financial burden which some counties that might recognize the need for a juvenile court cannot afford. It would be costly, inefficient and ineffective to mandate a juvenile court judge in each of Georgia's 159 counties. The obvious alternative is that these courts serve geographic areas and allow for coordinated administrative efforts with superior courts. This would give both courts a unified basis for funding, physical facilities, and

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#### services of jurists.

For the juvenile court to obtain the credibility and quality that is needed, the State must provide funding. Many of the children who come before the juvenile court end up becoming wards of the State either through termination of parental rights or commitments to juvenile institutions, and other children are supported in their own community through State-funded services. It is only logical that the State become involved financially in this decision-making position of the juvenile court judge.

# SUMMARY

The work of the Committee has been done in a complex area in a short period of time, but the general findings are supported by other studies being done in the juvenile justice The general conclusions are in line with the work of the area. National Task Force on Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention, with the major difference being full endorsement by the National Task Force for a family court. This Committee did on a study of the total judiciary and leaves not take recommendations for or against the family court to the Select Committee on Constitutional Revision but does feel some immediate steps need to be taken to upgrade the juvenile justice system in Georgia. Further, the Committee recognizes that the juvenile court judge is only one part of the juvenile justice system and that he clone cannot correct all the problems or inadequacies. There have been major advancements in the past few years in Georgia's juvenile justice system including the development and expansion of community resources for neglected, dependent and delinquent youths, passage of legislation dealing with the status offender, and public awareness of troubled children. The Committee strongly supports all of these and emphasizes that without support services, community and residential treatment programs and early intervention services being developed Statewide, its efforts to address the problems of the juvenile court cannot accomplish the long-term objective of youth growing

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into adults who are able to cope with life's responsibilities within our legal and moral framework.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Senate Committee has concentrated much time and deliberation into all facets of the controversy over juvenile court judges' qualifications. Based on the information collected and presented to it, the Committee makes these recommendations:

I. Each judicial circuit have at least one partor full-time juvenile court judge. The number and type of judge should be based on the circuit's population at risk as follows:

<u>Type of Juvenile Judge</u>	No. of Children O to 17
Full-time	40,000 - 75,000
Part-time (80%)	25,000 - 39,999
Part-time (60%)	18,000 - 24,999
Part-time (50%)	up to 18,000

As the population at risk increases, the type of judge would change. (Ince there is a full-time judge, another judge would be added when the population reaches that necessary for another full-time judge.

2. Full-time juvenile court judges be paid by the State at the same rate as superior court judges. State pay for part-time juvenile court judges be based on a percentage of the full-time judge's salary according to the circuit population at risk as follows:

No. of Children 0 to 17	Percentage of Superior <u>Court Judge Salary</u>
40,000 - 75,000	100%
25,000 - 39,999	80%
18,000 - 24,999	60%
up to 17,999	50%

3. The qualifications for juvenile court judges be as follows:

a. All juvenile court judges be members of the

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State Bar of Georgia for at least five years.

b. Full-time judges be prohibited from the private practice of law.

c. Part-time judges be prohibited from the practice of law in juvenile matters.

4. The selection process for juvenile court judges be as follows:

a. For initial appointment or to fill any vacancy, the superior court judge or judges of the particular circuit would submit at least three names to the Judicial Nomination Commission. The Judicial Nomination Commission would certify as to the qualifications of those names submitted, taking into consideration the educational background and experience in juvenile court matters and family law. The superior court judge or judges of the circuit would then select one of the qualified nominees to be the juvenile court judge. This name would be submitted to the Governor for his approval and appointment for a term of six years. The Governor could veto the selection, in which case the process would be repeated.

b. At the end of the six-year term, the juvenile court judge would run for election against his own record. His name would be placed on the ballot for a yes or no vote by the electorate of the circuit. If elected, he would again serve a six-year term and be eligible for reelection. If he were not elected, the initial appointment process would be used to fill the vacancy.

5. All juvenile court judges attend at least one training seminar per year. The training would be paid for by the State through the Council of Juvenile Court Judges.

6. All referees hearing juvenile cases be members

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of the State Bar of Georgia or hold law degraes.

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In conclusion, the Committee recommends passage of legislation during the 1978 session of the General Assembly to implement the recommendations outlined herein.

Respectfully submitted,

IST ROY E. BARMES ROY E. BARMES SENATOR, 33RD DISTROCT

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SI EDWARD M. JOHNSON EDWARD M. JOHNSON SENATOR, 39TH DISTRICT 151 CHARLES H. WESSELS CHARLES H. WESSELS

/5/ FLOYD HEDGINS, CHAIRMAN FLOYD HUDGINS, CHAIRMAN SENATOR, 15TH DISTRICT

15/ TODD EVANS SENATOR, 37TH DISTRICT

SENATOR, 2ND DISTRICT

The Senate Committee on Judiciary offers the following substitute to SR 103:

#### A RESOLUTION

Creating the Juvenile Judge Qualifications Study 22
 Committee; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the rates of juvenile crimes and 25 4 delinquency have been increasing dramatically over the past 26 5 several years; and

ა WHEREAS, along with this rising crime and 29 7 delinguency rate, there has been placed on the juvenile 30 8 courts an increasing responsibility to handle increased 31 9 caseloads while giving individual attention to the problems. 32 10 background and rehabilitation of each juvenile brought 11 before the court; and

WHEREAS, given the responsibilities so placed on 35
juvenile court judges, it is absolutely essential that 36
reasonable and appropriate standards and qualifications be 37
established for juvenile judges and that qualified persons
be found and retained to so serve; and 38

WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that a 41
special committee of the Senate be formed to study and make 42
recommendations concerning necessary qualifications for 43
juvenile court judges,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that 48
there is hereby created the Juvenile Judge Qualifications
Study Committee to be composed of five members of the Senate 49
to be appointed by the President thereof. The Chairman of 50
the Committee shall be appointed by the President of the 51

S. R. 103

1 Senate. 51 2 In addition, the legislative members shall appoint 53 advisors from the following: National Council on Crime and 3 54 4 Delinquency, National Council of Jewish Women, American 55 5 Legion, National Association of Social Workers, AFL-CIO, 6 Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Judges, 56 Georgia Juvenile Services Association, Junior League, Georgia Mental 7 57 .3 Health Association, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs, 58 9 State Department of Education, Division of Youth Services of 59 10 the Department of Human Resources, the State Crime Commission, and the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council. 11 60

12 The Committee is authorized to do all things it 62 13 deems necessary to investigate and study the issues of 63 14 juvenile judge qualifications and problems related thereto 64 15 for the purpose of addressing those issues and problems by 15 appropriate legislation. To further its knowledge, the 65 17 Committee may consult with experts and persons with 66 18 practical knowledge of the subjects being pursued.

19 The legislative members of the Committee shall 68 20 receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of 69 21 interim legislative committees, but for no longer than 10 70 22 days unless an extension is obtained from the presiding 23 officer of the Senate. The funds necessary to carry out the 71 24 provisions of this Resolution shall come from the funds 72 25 appropriated to or available to the legislative branch of 73 2ố government.

27 The Committee shall issue a report of its findings 75 28 to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 1977, at 76 29 which time the Committee shall stand abolished.

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✤ Appendix B

MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO SENATE JUVENILE JUDGES OU \_ IFICATIONS STUDY COMMITTEE

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Advisory Committee continued - .

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Appendix C

A Brief Summary of Judicial Manpower in Georgia's Juvenile Courts

<u>Introduction</u> - At present, in Georgia jurisdiction over juveniles is exercised by three types of trial court judges. These types of judges are: Juvenile Court Judges (full and part-time); State Court Judges, and Superior Court Judges. These judges are disbursed in the following numbers: 8 full-time juvenile court judges; 31 part-time juvenile court judges; 6 state court judges who are also part- time juvenile court judges and 38 superior court judges who hear juvenile court cases in 108 counties. This summary is based on existing data and is only intended to provide the reader with some limited insight into the work of Georgia's Juvenile Courts. It should not be viewed as a recommendation to establish any additional judgeships, or to alter the existing structure in any way.

Identification of Factors - In analyzing the work of Georgia's Juvenile Court'Judges the following factors were considered:

- <u>Caseload</u> The total number of cases disposed by a juvenile court in a given year. This analysis utilizes the data from the <u>1975</u> "Report of Children's Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts in Georgia". This report is prepared by the Department of Human Resources and filed with the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
- <u>Juvenile Population</u> The total number of children in a given county between the ages of 10-16. The data utilized in this analysis was obtained from the 1974 population projections prepared by the Office

of Planning and Budget.

3. <u>Actual Hours Per Week</u> - the total number of hours spent by a given juvenile court judge during the course of a week on the bench as well as in administrative affairs. This information was extracted from the "Juvenile Court Judges Personnel and Salary Survey" conducted earlier by this office.

The statistical formula which were used to analyze these factors will be explained in the text of the summary.

The work of the superior court judges who exercise jurisdiction over juveniles will not be analyzed in this report. This is attributable to the fact that this report, to a large extent relies on the data that were collected as a result of the "Juvenile Court Judges Personnel and Salary Survey" and superior court judges were not among the respondents to that survey. However, the caseload and population data from these counties will be included in this report.

## Full-time Juvenile Court Judges

There are presently eight (8) full-time juvenile court judges in Georgia. However, there were only seven (7) at the time of the "Juvenile Court Judges Personnel and Salary Survey". Since this survey was conducted Clayton County has appointed a full-time juvenile court judge. <u>Presentation of Exhibits</u> - Exhibit I depicts the counties in which fulltime juvenile court judges are located; the number of full-time juvenile court judges in a particular county; the total number of cases disposed of during calendar year 1975; the number of hours required per week to dispose of these cases; and the juvenile population of the counties.

	Judges	Caseload	Time Required	Population
Fulton	2	9,066	50 hrs. per wks per judge	80,394

	Judges	Caseload	<b>Time</b> Required	<u> Population</u>
DeKalb	2	5,729	44 hrs. per wk per judge	49,584
Cobb	1	4,012	45 hrs. per wk	31,797
Chatham	1	2,021	50 hrs. per wk	25,033
Clarke	_1	505	<u>45 hrs.</u> per wk	5,966
Totals	7	21,333	328 hrs.	192,774

Average Caseload Per Full-Time Juvenile Court Judges - The average caseload per full-time juvenile court judge in Georgia was 3,048. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of all the cases disposed of by full-time juvenile court judges divided by the total number of judges.

$$\frac{21,333}{7}$$
 = 3,048

The range of cases diposed of was as follows: From 505 cases in Clarke County (1 judge) to 9,066 cases in Fulton County (2 judges with assistance from two hearing Referees and two intake Referees). The statistical or mathematical range was 8,562 cases. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The subtraction of the smallest number of cases from the largest number of cases and adding one.

9,066 - 505 + 1 = 8,562

<u>Average Time Required Per Week Per Full-Time Judge</u> - The average amount of time required by a full-time judge per week to serve his caseload was 47 hours per week. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of all the time required by a full-time judge divided by the total number of full-time judges.

<u>328</u> = 47

The range of hours per week for full-time judges was as follows: From 44 hours per week in DeKalb County (2 judges with assistances from 1 referee) to 50 hours per week in Fulton (2 judges with assistance from 2 hearing Referees and 2 Intake Referees) Counties. The statistical or mathematical range was 7 hours.

50 - 44 + 1 = 7

# Average Population Per Full-Time Judge

The average population per full-time judge according to the 1974 population projections is 31,081. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of the total juvenile population for all counties served by a full-time judge divided by the total number of full-time judges.

<u>192,774</u> = 27,539

The range of the population was from 5,966 in Clarke County (1 Judge without assistance from a Referee) to 80,394 in Fulton County (2 Judges with assistance from two hearing Referees and two Intake Referees). The statistical or mathematical range is 74,429.

80,394 - 5,966 + 1 = 74,429

In analyzing the work of Georgia's full-time juvenile court judges the averages with respect to caseload, time required per week and population were subjected to the following statistical formula. This was done in order to provide the reader with the best possible data upon which to base the development of a normative model for recommending a full-time juvenile court judge.

Caseload:

 $\frac{40(3,048)}{47} = \frac{121,920}{47} = 2,594$  cases

These figures were computed by using the following formula: The average working hours per week times the caseload per judge divided by

the actual number of hours per week.

**Population:** 

 $\frac{40}{47} \left(\frac{27,539}{47}\right) = \frac{1,101,560}{47} = 23,437$ 

These figures were computed by using the following formula: The average working hours per week times the juvenile population per judge divided by the actual number of hours per week.

<u>40 (juvenile population)</u> = Average Population Actual Time Required

# Part-time Juvenile Court Judges

There are presently thirty-seven (37) part-time juvenile court judges (this figure includes 6 State Court Judges who are also part-time juvenile court judges in Georgia). However, this summary only considered the work of 33 of these judges. This is, again, attributable to the fact that this summary utilizes data that were collected as a result of the "Juvenile Court Judges Personnel and Salary Survey" and only 33 of these judges responded to this survey.

<u>Presentation of Exhibit</u> - Exhibit II depicts the counties in which part-time juvenile court judges are located; the number of part-time juvenile court judges; the total number of cases disposed of during calendar year 1975; the number of hours required per week to dispose of these cases; and the juvenile population of the counties.

	Judges	Caseload	Time Required	<u>Population</u>
Appling * 🔔	1	29	9	2,198
Banks @		19	•	572 <sup>·</sup>
Barrow@		56	. 27	2,301
Jackson @		. 64		2,821
Bartow	1	375	16	4,705

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	Judges	Caseload	Time Required	Population	
Butts		93	4	1,705	
Lamar	1	130		1,369	
Carroll*	1	225	8	• 6,193	
Catoosa	1	154	5	4,354	
Clayton	1	2,166	N/A	18,248	
Bibb	1	865	30	19,919	
Colquitt	1	123 -	9	4,337	
Dade	1	81	8	1,240	
Dougherty	1	684	N/A	13,808	
Coweta*	l	2,816	16	4,685	
Spalding@		607		5,358	
Píke@	1	25	16	963	
Fayette@	•	94	•	2,171	
Upson@	•	198		3,308	
Floyd	ı	779	20	9,262	
Glynn	1	961	10	7,369	
Gordon	1	411	11	3,389	
Gwinnett	1	894	18	13,701	
Hall	1	508	11	9,557	
Henry	1.	121	10	4,190	
Houston*	1	1,415	13	10,855	
Laurens	1	324	12	4,932	
Lowndes	1	343 .	5	8,650	
Meriwether	1	89	4	2,982	
Muscogee	ı	J,910	22	21,765	
Newton	• 1	.82	18	3,942	
Polk*	1	101	20	4,066	

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	Judges	Caseload	Time Required	Population
Sumter	1	166	3	3,921
Thomas	1	215	35	5,326
Troup	ו	576	8	5,811
Walker	1	263	13	6,802
Walton	ו	358	36	3,439
Wayne* -	1	182 .	N/A	2,920
Whitfield	<u> </u>	<u>697</u>	16	7,951
Totals	33	19,199	433	241,085
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\*State Court Judges hearing juvenile cases

@Circuits in which juvenile court judges serve entire circuit

Average Caseload Per Part-Time Juvenile Court Judge - The average caseload per part-time juvenile court judge in Georgia was 582. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of all the cases disposed of by part-time juvenile court judges divided by the total number of judges.

$$\frac{19,199}{33} = 582$$

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The range of cases disposed of was as follows: From 19 cases in Banks County (1 part-time judge hearing cases for a three county circuit (Piedmont) in addition to being a state court judge) to 2,816 cases in Coweta County ( 1 part-time judge hearing cases in addition to being a state court judge).

The statistical or mathematical range was 2,798 cases. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The subtraction of the smallest number of cases from the largest number of cases and adding one:

2,816 - 19 + 1 = 2,798

<u>Average Time Required Per Week Per Part-Time Judge</u> - The average amount of time required by a part-time judge per week to serve his caseload was 15 hours per week. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of all the time required by the part-time judges divided by the total number of part-time judges reporting.

$$\frac{433}{29} = 15$$

The range of hours per week for part-time judges was as follows: From 4 hours per week in Meriwether County (1 part-time judge) to 36 hours per week in Walton County (1 part-time judge). The statistical or mathematical range was 33. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The subtraction of the smallest number of hours from the largest number of cases and adding one.

36 - 4 + 1 = 33

<u>Average Population Per Part-Time Judge</u> - The average population per parttime judge according to the 1974 population porjections is 7,221. This figure was computed by using the following formula: The sum of the total juvenile population for all counties served by a part-time judge divided by the total number of part-time judges.

 $\frac{241,085}{33} = 7,306$ 

The range of the population was from 572 in Banks County (1 parttime judge in addition to being state court judge) to 21,765 in Muscogee County (1 part-time judge with assistance from 1 Referee). The statistical or mathematical range is 21, 194.

21,765 - 572 + 1 = 21,194

In analyzing the work of Georgia's part-time juvenile court judges the averages with respect to caseload, time required per week and population

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were subject to the following statistical formula. This was done in order to provide the reader with the best possible data upon which to base the development of a normative model for recommending a parttime juvenile court judge.

Caseload:

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$$\frac{40(582)}{15} = \frac{23,280}{15} = 1,552$$

Population:

$$\frac{40\ (7,306)}{15} = \frac{292,240}{15} = 19,483$$

Counties Without the Service of a Juvenile Court Judge

<u>Presentation of Exhibit</u> - Exhibit III depicts those circuits and counties where there are no juvenile court judges; the total number of cases disposed of during calendar year 1975, and the juvenile population of the county.

<u>Circuit</u>	County	<b>Population</b>	<b>Disposition</b>
Alapaha	Atkinson	888	35
	Berrien	1,616	69
	Clinch	869	30
	Cook	1,813	73
	Lanier	735	30
Atlantic .	Bryan	1,260	22
	Evans	1,339	36
	Liberty	2,401	93
• • •	Long	523	- 22
	. McIntosh	1,709	11
	Tattnall	1,817	36
Augusta	Bu∿ke	3,315	* 89
	Columbia	4,456	96
	Richmond	20,392	669
<b>Bl</b> ue Ridge	Cherokee	4,458	452
	Fannin	1,647	142
	Forsyth	2,696	212
	Gilmer	1,192	160
	Pickens	1,327	156

Circuit	County	<b>Population</b>	<b>Disposition</b>
Brunswick	Jeff Davis	1,589	89
Chattahoochee -	Chattahoochee Harris Marion Talbot Taylor	3,292 2,326 335 792 1,027	37 36 4 10 5
Conasauga	Murray	2,186	20
Cordele	Ben Hill Dooly Wilcox	1,647 1,555 882	58 18 3
Coweta	Heard	724	6
Dublin .	Johnson Truetlin Twiggs	828 888 1,234	26 28 . 32
Flint	Monroe	2,040	66
Lookout Mountain	Chattooga	2,602	95
Macon	Crawford Peach	845 2,261	32 38
Middle	Candler Emanuel Jefferson Tcombs Washington	921 2,271 2,846 3,082 3,240	69 100 63 320 86
Mountain -	Habersham Rabun Stephens Towns	2,930 1,254 2,279 578 1,030	51 18 58 11 24
Northeastern	Dawson Lumpkin White	539 1,100 1,251	12 32 21
Northern	Elbert Franklin Hart Madison Oglethorpe	2,305 1,986 2,080 2,729 1,063	73 48 43 28 8
Ocmu1gee	Baldwin Green Hancock Jasper Jones Morgan	3,595 1,423 1,703 920 2,147 1,757	169 27 41 63 13 24

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<u>Circuit</u>	County	Population	Disposition
Ocmulgee	Putnam		
	Wilkinson	1,225 1,562	54
Oconee	Bleckley	1,286	
	Dodge	1,878	60 43
•	Montgomery	890	- 41
•	Pulaski Telfair	1,344	42
•	weeler	1,633 519	74
Acomboo			17
<b>O</b> geechee	Bulloch	3,200	201
	Effingham Jenkins	2,281	93
•	Screven	· 1,350 1,979	6
		1,373	29
Pataula	Clay	505	· 20
	Early Miller	1,852	15
	Quitman	922	4
	Randolph	308 1,097	· 1
	Seminole	1,343	22 5
South Georgia	Baker	505	
	Calhoun	999	2
	Decatur		···· 17 1,240
	Grady	. 2,223	35
	Mitchell	2,749	47
Southern	Brooks	1,887	44
	Echols	255	
Southwestern	Lee	1,437	
•	Macon	1,847	7 15
	Schley	393 -	2
	Stewart	826	15
•	Webster	<b>524</b>	. 1 .
Tallapoosa	Douglas	5,389	428
• •	Haralson	2,028	32
••••	Paulding	2,813	29
Tifton	Irwin	7,329	. 16
	Tift	4,001	164
	Turner	1,139	16
	Worth	2,548	7
Toombs	Glascock	321	3
	Lincoln	825	3 7
	McDuffie Taliaforma	2,592	95
•	Taliaferro Warren	227	95 5 14 31
	Wilkes	932 1,496	14
•		1,170	31

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<u>Circuit</u>	County	Population	Disposition
Waycross	Bacon Brantley Charlton Coffee Pierce	1,154 1,048 1,181 3,400 1,467	5 13 27 192 42
Western	0cone <b>e</b>	_1.121	17
Totals		202,257	7,742

Prepared by:

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Alton J. Moultrie Juvenile Court Specialist Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges

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#### APPENDIX D

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#### MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND PERSONS TESTIFYING

June 27, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia

July 11 and 12, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia

August 16, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia Testifying: Judge John F. Hardin, Superior Court Augusta Judicial Circuit

> Judge Walter C. McMillan, Jr., Superior Court, Middle Judicial Circuit Sandersville, Georgia

Judge Asa D. Kelley, Jr., Superior Court Dougherty Judicial Circuit Albany, Georgia

Judge William F. Blanks, Superior Court Southwestern Judicial Circuit Americus, Georgia

Paul Liston, Attorney at Law, Atlanta, Ga.

August 25, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Captiol, Atlanta, Georgia . Testifying: Judge Rex Ruff Juvenile Court of Cobb County Marietta, Georgia

> Judge Romae T. Powell Juvenile Court of Fulton County Atlanta, Georgia

Judge Aaron Cohn Juvenile Court of Muscogee County Columbus, Georgia

Judge Dennis Jones Juvenile Court of Dekalb County Decatur, Georgia

Judge H. M. Crane, Jr. Juvenile Court of Bartow County Cartersville, Georgia

Judge Harold H. Wollistein Juvenile Court of Floyd County Rome, Georgia August 26, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia Testifying: Judge John S. Langford, Superior Court Atlanta Judicial Circuit, Atlanta, Georgia

> Judge James B. O'Connor, Superior Court Oconee Judicial Circuit Eastman, Georgia

Judge Coy Temples, Superior Court Conasauga Judicial Circuit Dalton, Georgia

September 8, 1977 - Committee Field Visit to Albany, Georgia - Programs Visited:

Tour of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County - Presentation by Judge Eugene C. Black, Juvenile Judge of Dougherty County

Visit to Judicial Service Agency of Dougherty County, Inc. Presentation and Testimony by the following persons: Judge Asa D. Kelley, Jr., Superior Court, Dougherty Judicial Circuit Judge Eugene Black, Juvenile Court Judge, Doughterty County Mr. Wilbur D. McCorty, Director, Judicial Service Agency Dr. William H. Sanders, Austell, Georgia Miss Susan Keefler, Volunteer Probation Worker Dr. Morgan, Reading Program Mr. Bert Pilgrim

December 12, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia Testifying: Joel W. Norris, P.H.D., Psychotherapist, Atlanta, Georgia Lila Bonner Miller, M.D., Psychiatrist, Atlanta, Georgia Curtis L. Rosser, Administrator, Metropolitan Psychiatric Center Atlanta, Georgia

December 13, 1977 - Committee Meeting, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia

Several of the meetings of the Committee were held jointly with the Senate Juvenile Offenders Study Committee.

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