

3rd United States Congress  
4th Session

# S. 14

To assign duties to the Chief Justice relating to his traditional role as the administrative head of the Federal Judiciary and in order to ensure that all branches of government are adequately informed of his actions to ensure activity and continued function of the courts.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES  
December 27th, 2021

Mr. HUMAN (for himself) introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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# A BILL

To assign duties to the Chief Justice relating to his traditional role as the administrative head of the Federal Judiciary and in order to ensure that all branches of government are adequately informed of his actions to ensure activity and continued function of the courts.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
United States of America Assembled.*

## SEC 1. TITLE

(a) This bill may be cited as “S. 14”, or by its long title, “Efficient Judicial Function and General Duties Act”

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## **SEC 2. SEVERABILITY**

- (a) Severability. — This Resolution shall be severable, such that if any word, phrase, line, sentence, or provision of this Resolution, or the application of any of them to any person or circumstance, is held Invalid, their application to other persons or circumstances, and the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby. This Resolution shall not be superseded by any newer law unless that law specifically declares its intent to supersede this Resolution’s provisions.

## **SEC 3. DUTIES GENERALLY**

- (a) The Chief Justice shall see that the business of the several courts of the Federal Government is attended with proper dispatch, with regard to general liberties and both statutory and common law protections and limitations, and that cases, civil or criminal, are not permitted to become congested or delayed”
- (b) In connection with these duties and other responsibilities, the Chief Justice is authorized and empowered:
- (1) To ensure that every person accused of an offense is provided adequate legal representation in the United States courts by recommending to the Attorney General and Chief Judge of the United States District Court changes in the public defender system;
  - (2) To take affirmative and appropriate action to correct or alleviate any condition or situation adversely affecting the administration of justice; and
  - (3) To take any such further or additional action as may be necessary for the orderly administration of justice, whether or not enumerated in this section or elsewhere.

#### **SEC 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

(a) Whenever the Chief Justice takes action in connection with his duties under Section 3 of this Act, he shall submit a report with the Senate and House Committees on the Judiciary, the President, and [when applicable] the Judicial Conference detailing:

- (1) the action taken;
- (2) the reason for such action being taken; and
- (3) how the action is consistent with his duties under section 3 of this Act.

(b) Any person or entity receiving a report under this section may request further or supplemental information as may be reasonably needed.

(c) Within ten (10) days of a report under this section being filed, Congress may, by concurrent resolution, direct the Chief Justice to defer implementation of any action under this Act until Congress so directs otherwise, unless the action taken was pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of Section 3.

#### **SEC 5. EFFECTIVE DATE**

(a) This Act shall take effect immediately after its ratification within the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives and signature of the President of the United States.