To amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Coons (for himself, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Rubio, and Mr. Nelson) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the “Bankruptcy Judgeship
5 Act of 2017”.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Represe-
SEC. 2. CONVERSION OF THE TEMPORARY OFFICE OF
   BANKRUPTCY JUDGE TO THE PERMANENT
   OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE IN CERTAIN
   JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

(a) District of Delaware.—
   (1) The temporary office of 4 bankruptcy judges authorized for the district of Delaware by section 1223(b)(1)(C) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 196; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section 2(a)(1)(C) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge and represented in the amendment made by section 3(1) of this Act.


(b) Southern District of Florida.—The temporary office of 2 bankruptcy judges authorized for the
southern district of Florida by section 1223(b)(1)(D) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 197; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section 2(a)(1)(D) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the permanent offices of bankruptcy judges and represented in the amendment made by section 3(3) of this Act.

district of Maryland.—The temporary office of the 2 bankruptcy judges first appointed as authorized for the district of Maryland by section 1223(b)(1)(F) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 197; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section 2(a)(1)(F) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge and represented in the amendment made by section 3(4) of this Act.

(c) District of Nevada.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judge authorized for the district of Nevada by section 1223(b)(1)(T) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 197; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section 2(a)(1)(Q) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge and represented in the amendment made by section 3(6) of this Act.


(g) District of Puerto Rico.—

(1) The temporary office of bankruptcy judge authorized for the district of Puerto Rico by section 1223(b)(1)(P) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 197; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section 2(a)(1)(M) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the per-
manent office of bankruptcy judge and represented
in the amendment made by section 3(8) of this Act.

(2) The temporary office of bankruptcy judge
authorized for the district of Puerto Rico by section
3(a)(7) of Public Law 102–361 (106 Stat. 966; 28
U.S.C. 152 note), and extended by section
1223(c)(1) of Public Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 198; 28
U.S.C. 152 note) and section 2(b)(1) of Public Law
112–121 (126 Stat. 347; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is
converted hereby to the permanent office of bank-
ruptcy judge and is represented in the amendment
made by section 3(8) of this Act.

(h) WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE.—The tem-
porary office of bankruptcy judge authorized for the western
district of Tennessee by section 1223(b)(1)(Q) of Public
(126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby
to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge and is rep-
presented in the amendment made by section 3(9) of this Act.

(i) EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.—The tem-
porary office of bankruptcy judge authorized for the eastern
district of Virginia by section 1223(b)(1)(R) of Public
Law 109–8 (119 Stat. 197; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), and ex-
tended by section 2(a)(1)(P) of Public Law 112–121 (126 Stat. 346; 28 U.S.C. 152 note), is converted hereby to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge and is represented in the amendment made by section 3(10) of this Act.

SEC. 3. PERMANENT OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE AUTHORIZED.

To reflect the conversion of the temporary office of bankruptcy judge to the permanent office of bankruptcy judge made by the operation of section 2, and to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges, section 152(a)(2) of title 28 of the United States Code is amended—

(1) in the item relating to the district of Delaware by striking “1” and inserting “8”,

(2) in the item relating to the middle district of Florida by striking “8” and inserting “10”,

(3) in the item relating to the southern district of Florida by striking “5” and inserting “7”,

(4) in the item relating to the district of Maryland by striking “4” and inserting “6”,

(5) in the item relating to the eastern district of Michigan by striking “4” and inserting “7”,

(6) in the item relating to the district of Nevada by striking “3” and inserting “4”,

(7) in the item relating to the eastern district of North Carolina by striking “2” and inserting “3”,

(8) in the item relating to the district of Puerto Rico by striking “2” and inserting “4”,

(9) in the item relating to the western district of Tennessee by striking “4” and inserting “5”, and

(10) in the item relating to the eastern district of Virginia by striking “5” and inserting “6”.