



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 272**

February Session, 2006

Senate Bill No. 458

*Senate, March 31, 2006*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. MCDONALD of the 27th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE KENT PROBATE DISTRICT INTO THE LITCHFIELD PROBATE DISTRICT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 45a-2 of the general statutes, as amended by  
2 section 1 of public act 04-19, is repealed and the following is  
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 3, 2007*):

4 The probate districts of the state, for all purposes for which they  
5 were constituted, shall be as follows:

6 (a) Hartford County

7 The district of Hartford, consisting of the town of Hartford.

8 The district of Avon, consisting of the town of Avon.

9 The district of Berlin, consisting of the towns of Berlin and New  
10 Britain.

- 11 The district of Bloomfield, consisting of the town of Bloomfield.
- 12 The district of Bristol, consisting of the town of Bristol.
- 13 The district of Burlington, consisting of the town of Burlington.
- 14 The district of Canton, consisting of the town of Canton.
- 15 The district of East Granby, consisting of the town of East Granby.
- 16 The district of East Hartford, consisting of the town of East  
17 Hartford.
- 18 The district of East Windsor, consisting of the towns of East  
19 Windsor and South Windsor.
- 20 The district of Enfield, consisting of the town of Enfield.
- 21 The district of Farmington, consisting of the town of Farmington.
- 22 The district of Glastonbury, consisting of the town of Glastonbury.
- 23 The district of Granby, consisting of the town of Granby.
- 24 The district of Manchester, consisting of the town of Manchester.
- 25 The district of Marlborough, consisting of the town of Marlborough.
- 26 The district of Newington, consisting of the towns of Newington,  
27 Rocky Hill and Wethersfield.
- 28 The district of Plainville, consisting of the town of Plainville.
- 29 The district of Simsbury, consisting of the town of Simsbury.
- 30 The district of Southington, consisting of the town of Southington.
- 31 The district of Suffield, consisting of the town of Suffield.
- 32 The district of West Hartford, consisting of the town of West  
33 Hartford.

- 34 The district of Windsor, consisting of the town of Windsor.
- 35 The district of Windsor Locks, consisting of the town of Windsor  
36 Locks.
- 37 (b) New Haven County
- 38 The district of New Haven, consisting of the town of New Haven.
- 39 The district of Bethany, consisting of the town of Bethany.
- 40 The district of Branford, consisting of the town of Branford.
- 41 The district of Cheshire, consisting of the towns of Cheshire and  
42 Prospect.
- 43 The district of Derby, consisting of the towns of Derby, Ansonia and  
44 Seymour.
- 45 The district of East Haven, consisting of the town of East Haven.
- 46 The district of Guilford, consisting of the town of Guilford.
- 47 The district of Hamden, consisting of the town of Hamden.
- 48 The district of Madison, consisting of the town of Madison.
- 49 The district of Meriden, consisting of the town of Meriden.
- 50 The district of Milford, consisting of the town of Milford.
- 51 The district of Naugatuck, consisting of the towns of Naugatuck and  
52 Beacon Falls.
- 53 The district of North Branford, consisting of the town of North  
54 Branford.
- 55 The district of North Haven, consisting of the town of North Haven.
- 56 The district of Orange, consisting of the town of Orange.

- 57 The district of Oxford, consisting of the town of Oxford.
- 58 The district of Southbury, consisting of the town of Southbury.
- 59 The district of Wallingford, consisting of the town of Wallingford.
- 60 The district of Waterbury, consisting of the towns of Waterbury,  
61 Middlebury and Wolcott.
- 62 The district of West Haven, consisting of the town of West Haven.
- 63 The district of Woodbridge, consisting of the town of Woodbridge.
- 64 (c) New London County
- 65 The district of New London, consisting of the towns of New London  
66 and Waterford.
- 67 The district of Norwich, consisting of the towns of Norwich,  
68 Franklin, Lisbon, Preston, Sprague and Voluntown.
- 69 The district of Bozrah, consisting of the town of Bozrah.
- 70 The district of Colchester, consisting of the towns of Colchester and  
71 Lebanon.
- 72 The district of East Lyme, consisting of the town of East Lyme.
- 73 The district of Griswold, consisting of the town of Griswold.
- 74 The district of Groton, consisting of the town of Groton.
- 75 The district of Ledyard, consisting of the town of Ledyard.
- 76 The district of Lyme, consisting of the town of Lyme.
- 77 The district of Montville, consisting of the town of Montville.
- 78 The district of North Stonington, consisting of the town of North  
79 Stonington.

- 80 The district of Old Lyme, consisting of the town of Old Lyme.
- 81 The district of Salem, consisting of the town of Salem.
- 82 The district of Stonington, consisting of the town of Stonington.
- 83 (d) Fairfield County
- 84 The district of Bridgeport, consisting of the town of Bridgeport.
- 85 The district of Danbury, consisting of the town of Danbury.
- 86 The district of Bethel, consisting of the town of Bethel.
- 87 The district of Brookfield, consisting of the town of Brookfield.
- 88 The district of Darien, consisting of the town of Darien.
- 89 The district of Fairfield, consisting of the town of Fairfield.
- 90 The district of Greenwich, consisting of the town of Greenwich.
- 91 The district of New Canaan, consisting of the town of New Canaan.
- 92 The district of New Fairfield, consisting of the towns of New  
93 Fairfield and Sherman.
- 94 The district of Newtown, consisting of the town of Newtown.
- 95 The district of Norwalk, consisting of the towns of Norwalk and  
96 Wilton.
- 97 The district of Redding, consisting of the town of Redding.
- 98 The district of Ridgefield, consisting of the town of Ridgefield.
- 99 The district of Shelton, consisting of the town of Shelton.
- 100 The district of Stamford, consisting of the town of Stamford.
- 101 The district of Stratford, consisting of the town of Stratford.

102 The district of Trumbull, consisting of the towns of Trumbull,  
103 Easton and Monroe.

104 The district of Westport, consisting of the towns of Westport and  
105 Weston.

106 (e) Windham County

107 The district of Windham, consisting of the towns of Windham and  
108 Scotland.

109 The district of Ashford, consisting of the town of Ashford.

110 The district of Brooklyn, consisting of the town of Brooklyn.

111 The district of Eastford, consisting of the towns of Eastford and  
112 Chaplin.

113 The district of Hampton, consisting of the town of Hampton.

114 The district of Killingly, consisting of the town of Killingly.

115 The district of Plainfield, consisting of the towns of Plainfield,  
116 Canterbury and Sterling.

117 The district of Pomfret, consisting of the town of Pomfret.

118 The district of Putnam, consisting of the town of Putnam.

119 The district of Thompson, consisting of the town of Thompson.

120 The district of Woodstock, consisting of the town of Woodstock.

121 (f) Litchfield County

122 The district of Litchfield, consisting of the towns of Litchfield, Kent,  
123 Morris and Warren.

124 The district of Harwinton, consisting of the town of Harwinton.

125 [The district of Kent, consisting of the town of Kent.]

126 The district of New Milford, consisting of the towns of New Milford  
127 and Bridgewater.

128 The district of Norfolk, consisting of the town of Norfolk.

129 The district of the Northwest Corner, consisting of the towns of  
130 Canaan, Cornwall, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

131 The district of Plymouth, consisting of the town of Plymouth.

132 The district of Roxbury, consisting of the town of Roxbury.

133 The district of Thomaston, consisting of the town of Thomaston.

134 The district of Torrington, consisting of the towns of Torrington and  
135 Goshen.

136 The district of Washington, consisting of the town of Washington.

137 The district of Winchester, consisting of the towns of Winchester  
138 and Colebrook.

139 The district of Woodbury, consisting of the towns of Woodbury,  
140 Bethlehem and Watertown.

141 (g) Middlesex County

142 The district of Middletown, consisting of the towns of Middletown,  
143 Cromwell, Durham and Middlefield.

144 The district of Clinton, consisting of the town of Clinton.

145 The district of Deep River, consisting of the town of Deep River.

146 The district of East Haddam, consisting of the town of East  
147 Haddam.

148 The district of East Hampton, consisting of the town of East  
149 Hampton.

150 The district of Essex, consisting of the town of Essex.

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- 151 The district of Haddam, consisting of the town of Haddam.
- 152 The district of Killingworth, consisting of the town of Killingworth.
- 153 The district of Old Saybrook, consisting of the town of Old  
154 Saybrook.
- 155 The district of Portland, consisting of the town of Portland.
- 156 The district of Saybrook, consisting of the town of Chester.
- 157 The district of Westbrook, consisting of the town of Westbrook.
- 158 (h) Tolland County
- 159 The district of Tolland, consisting of the towns of Tolland and  
160 Willington.
- 161 The district of Andover, consisting of the towns of Andover, Bolton  
162 and Columbia.
- 163 The district of Ellington, consisting of the towns of Ellington and  
164 Vernon.
- 165 The district of Hebron, consisting of the town of Hebron.
- 166 The district of Mansfield, consisting of the towns of Coventry and  
167 Mansfield.
- 168 The district of Stafford, consisting of the towns of Stafford, Somers  
169 and Union.
- 170 (i) Litchfield and Hartford Counties
- 171 The district of New Hartford, consisting of the towns of New  
172 Hartford, Barkhamsted and Hartland.
- 173 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The towns of Litchfield, Kent,  
174 Morris and Warren shall, on and after the first Wednesday following  
175 the first Monday of January, 2007, constitute a probate district by the

176 name of the probate district of Litchfield. In 2006, and quadrennially  
177 thereafter, a judge of probate for said district shall be elected at the  
178 time and in the manner provided by law for the election of judges of  
179 probate. From and after the first Wednesday following the first  
180 Monday of January, 2007, the probate court for the district of Litchfield  
181 shall have the jurisdiction of all probate business arising in the towns  
182 of Litchfield, Kent, Morris and Warren.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 3, 2007</i>	45a-2
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$
Probate Court	PCAF - Savings	20,000

Note: PCAF=Probate Court Administration Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill eliminates the Kent probate court and creates the new probate district of Litchfield, consisting of the towns of Litchfield, Kent, Morris and Warren. The reorganization results in a savings by eliminating expenses of the Kent probate court, which are approximately \$20,000.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 458*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE KENT PROBATE DISTRICT INTO THE LITCHFIELD PROBATE DISTRICT.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates the probate district of Kent, consisting of the town of Kent. It adds Kent to the Litchfield probate district, which currently consists of Litchfield, Morris, and Warren.

The bill requires a judge to be elected for the Litchfield district that includes Kent in 2006 and every four years thereafter. Beginning January 3, 2007, it gives the Litchfield probate court district that includes Kent, jurisdiction over all probate business arising in Kent.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon passage, except for the provision eliminating the Kent district and adding Kent to the Litchfield district, which takes effect January 3, 2007.

**BACKGROUND*****Related Legislation***

SB 152, as amended by Senate A, which was passed by both houses, contains the same provisions as this bill.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 38    Nay 0    (03/13/2006)