



**H.B. 279**

125th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

Rep. Redfern

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**BILL SUMMARY**

- Adds one additional judge for the Erie County Court of Common Pleas to be elected in 2004 for a term to begin on January 2, 2005.
- Reallocates the jurisdictional responsibilities of the current judges of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas.

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**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

*Additional judge for Erie County Court of Common Pleas*

*Existing law*

The Erie County Court of Common Pleas has three judges: one judge of the probate division, one judge of the general division, and one judge of the domestic relations division (R.C. 2101.01--not in the bill, 2301.02(B), and 2301.03(N)).

*Operation of the bill*

The bill adds a new judge to the Erie County Court of Common Pleas. The new judge is to be elected initially in 2004 for a term to begin January 2, 2005. (R.C. 2301.02(B).)

*Reallocation of the jurisdictional responsibilities of the current judges of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas*

Under existing law, the successors to the judge of the Court of Common Pleas whose term began on January 2, 1971, are elected and designated as judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations. The bill modifies this provision by specifying that the successors to that judge whose terms begin before January 2, 2007, are to be elected as judges of the division of domestic

relations. The bill also provides that on or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the Court of Common Pleas who is elected in 2006 is the successor to the judge of the domestic relations division whose term expires on January 1, 2007, must be designated as judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, and is the juvenile judge as provided in R.C. Chapters 2151. and 2152. with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. (R.C. 2301.03(N)(1).)

Under the bill, the judge of the Court of Common Pleas, General Division, whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, the judge of the Court of Common Pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of the Court of Common Pleas, General Division, whose term begins February 9, 2009, and successors, must have assigned to them, in addition to all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the general division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before court, and all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate court under R.C. Chapter 2101., and other provisions of the Revised Code. (R.C. 2301.03(N)(2).)

The bill also provides that the judge of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas who is elected in 2008 is the successor to the judge of the probate division whose term expires on February 8, 2009, must be designated as judge of the Court of Common Pleas, General Division, has all the powers relating to the general division of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas, and is to exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the other judges of the General Division of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas over matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under R.C. Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code and all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the general division of the court as set forth in the bill (R.C. 2101.023).

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## **HISTORY**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>JOURNAL ENTRY</b>
Introduced	09-16-03	p. 1049

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