



Am. S.B. 180*
125th General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Civil Justice)

Sen. Hottinger

BILL SUMMARY

- Adds a judge to the Domestic Relations Division of the Licking County Court of Common Pleas to be elected in 2004 for a term to begin January 1, 2005.
- Provides that the administrative judge of the domestic relations division is responsible for the administrative duties of the division.
- Declares an emergency.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Additional judge for Licking County Court of Common Pleas

Existing law

The Licking County Court of Common Pleas currently has four judges: two judges of the general division, one judge of the domestic relations division, and one judge of the probate and juvenile division (R.C. 2301.02(B) and R.C. 2301.03(S) and R.C. 2101.02--not in the bill).

Operation of the bill

The bill adds a new judge to the Domestic Relations Division of the Licking County Court of Common Pleas. The new judge is to be elected initially in 2004 for a term to begin January 1, 2005. (R.C. 2301.02(B) and 2301.03(S).)

* *This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Civil Justice Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.*

The bill provides that the administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall be charged with the assignment and division of the work of the division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. That judge also must designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and fix the duties of the personnel of the division. (R.C. 2301.03(S).)

The bill also provides that, except as otherwise provided in R.C. 3513.08 (law regarding the declaration of candidacy for judge and candidate for any unexpired term) and R.C. 3513.257 (law regarding statements of candidacy and nominating petitions for independent candidates), the candidates for election in 2004 to the new judgeship in the Division of Domestic Relations of the Licking County Court of Common Pleas created by the bill must be nominated only by petition. The petition must be filed not later than 4 p.m. of the 75th day preceding the general election at which the judge is to be elected. Nominations for successors to the judge elected in 2004 must be made in accordance with the Revised Code. (Section 3.)

The bill provides that the act is an emergency measure because the additional judgeship for the Licking County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, is necessary for the efficient administration of justice in Licking County and candidates for the judgeship need to be assured that they will have adequate time to obtain the necessary signatures for nominating petitions for the 2004 election (Section 4).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	01-13-04	p. 1386
Reported, S. Civil Justice	---	---

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