

Amendment No. 1 to HB0144

Lundberg
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 41*

House Bill No. 144

by deleting all language after the caption and substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that, among other things, shifts in population and court caseloads require an evaluation of whether Tennessee's current judicial districts are appropriately and fairly sized and possess the proper resources; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that preserving the public trust in government requires the guarantee that effective tools to investigate and prosecute public corruption exist; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a)

(1) By no later than July 1, 2015, the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall establish an advisory task force to review the composition of Tennessee's current judicial districts codified at § 16-2-506. The task force shall consist of thirteen (13) members. Six (6) members shall be appointed by the speaker of the senate, six (6) members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one (1) member shall be appointed jointly. The members shall include at least three (3) current trial court judges, three (3) current district attorneys general, and three (3) current public defenders. One (1) member of each of these groups shall represent each grand division. The speakers shall, in making these appointments, consult with

Amendment No. 1 to HB0144

Lundberg
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 41*

House Bill No. 144

and solicit the recommendations of the Tennessee bar association, the district public defenders conference, the district attorneys general conference, and the judicial conference.

(2) By no later than January 1, 2017, the task force shall complete its findings and recommend and publish a proposed statewide judicial redistricting plan. The plan shall provide reasonable and timely access to Tennessee's circuit, chancery, and criminal courts and shall promote the efficient utilization of publicly-funded resources allocated for the courts. Prior to completing its findings and recommending this plan, the task force shall conduct at least one (1) public hearing within each of the three (3) grand divisions and shall receive oral and written testimony from interested organizations and citizens of this state.

(3) The task force shall deliver a report of its findings, as well as its proposed judicial redistricting plan, to the governor, the speakers of the senate and house of representatives, the joint legislative committee on judicial redistricting created by this section, and the administrative office of the courts at least one (1) week prior to publication of the proposed judicial redistricting plan.

(b)

(1) The administrative office of the courts shall provide support services to the task force created under this section.

(2) The members of the task force shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement of any travel expenses incurred. All reimbursement for travel expenses shall be in conformity with the comprehensive

state travel regulations as promulgated by the commissioner of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

(3) The task force shall cease to exist upon completion of the task force's report and recommendations.

(c)

(1) No later than January 1, 2016, and every eight (8) years thereafter, the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall establish a joint legislative committee on judicial redistricting. The joint committee shall consist of five (5) senators and five (5) representatives, appointed by the respective speakers. The committee shall thoroughly review the report and redistricting plan submitted to the committee under subsection (a) and shall receive oral and written testimony from interested organizations and citizens of this state. After August 31, 2022, the speakers of the senate and house of representatives may assemble a task force to assist the committee in its work. The members of the task force shall be appointed in the same manner as the members of the task force created under subsection (a).

(2) No later than August 31, 2019, and every eight (8) years thereafter, each joint legislative committee established pursuant to subdivision (c)(1) shall review the statewide judicial districts and recommend any necessary changes to the judicial districts to the general assembly.

SECTION 2.

(a)

(1) By no later than July 1, 2015, the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall establish an advisory task force to study the authority and use of the attorney general and reporter in investigations

and prosecutions involving public corruption and to recommend any necessary statutory revisions relating to public corruption.

(2) The task force shall consist of seven (7) members as follows:

(A) Two (2) members of the senate, to be appointed by the speaker of the senate;

(B) Two (2) members of the house of representatives, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(C) A designee of the director of the Tennessee bureau of investigation;

(D) One (1) former district attorney general, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(E) One (1) judge of the court of criminal appeals, to be appointed by the speaker of the senate.

(3) The speakers of the senate and house of representatives shall jointly designate the chairperson of the task force from the members appointed from the general assembly.

(4) The task force shall convene for its initial meeting on or before September 1, 2015, at a place and time to be determined by the chairperson of the task force. Any subsequent meetings shall occur at a time and place as determined by the chairperson; provided, however, that the task force shall meet at least one (1) time subsequent to the initial meeting and prior to December 1, 2015.

(b) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the speaker of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the judiciary committee of the senate and the criminal justice committee of the house of representatives by no later than December 5, 2015.

(c)

(1) The non-legislative members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of the comprehensive travel regulations as promulgated by the department of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

(2) Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed as members of the general assembly are paid for attending legislative meetings as provided in § 3-1-106.

(d) The task force shall cease to exist upon completion of the task force's report and recommendations.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.