

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 1 – HB 142**

January 29, 2015

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Codifies a new procedure by which the Governor will appoint appellate judges for a full term or to fill a vacancy. The appointed individual will be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Appellate judges will serve an eight-year term, at the end of which the judge will be subject to retention in a regular August election. If appointed to fill a vacancy, the appellate judge will serve until the next regular August election, unless appointed less than 30 days before the next regular August election, in which case the appointee will fill the vacancy until the regular August election in the next calendar year.

Creates a new special continuing committee within the General Assembly, the Judicial Confirmation Committee. The committee will be composed of 14 members of the General Assembly, including the chairs of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the House Civil Justice Committee, and the House Criminal Justice Committee.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

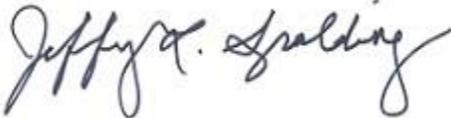
**Increase State Expenditures – \$4,700/Each One-Day Meeting**

Assumptions:

- The committee shall meet at the call of the chair upon receiving written notice from the Governor. The governor's appointee must appear before the committee to make a statement and answer questions. The cost for the 14 members of the General Assembly to attend one meeting is \$4,726.26 [(\$198 per diem + \$139.59 mileage for each member) x 14 members].
- The committee may conduct an independent investigation of the appointee and may request the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to run a background check. According to the Legislative Administration, the average cost of a TBI background check is \$41. It is assumed that any background check requested by the Judicial Confirmation Committee will not result in a significant increase in state expenditures and can be accommodated within existing resources.
- According to the Secretary of State, the bill will not result in an increase in election costs as the retention elections will be conducted with other regular August elections.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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