

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 900 – HB 1052

March 23, 2018

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Changes from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> day of each month that the Board of Judicial Conduct must report to the chief clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the number of complaints opened, the number of complaints closed, and the categories of dispositions for complaints.

Changes from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> day of each January, March, June, and September that the Board of Judicial Conduct must submit quarterly reports to the chief clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the number of complaints opened, the number of complaints closed, and the categories of dispositions for complaints.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014400):** Deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the proposed legislation to limit senior judge commissions to former judges who left the judge's most recent term of judicial service in good standing with the Board of Judicial Conduct.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 17-2-303(a) authorizes the Supreme Court to appoint senior judges only after it has made an affirmative finding that the effective administration of justice in one or more judicial districts requires additional judicial resources.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 17-2-303(b)(1) authorizes the Supreme Court to issue a commission to a former judge if the Supreme Court determines that the former judge is physically and mentally capable of performing valuable judicial service on a continuing

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basis and that the justice's or judge's service will promote the effective administration of justice.

- The proposed legislation adds a provision to Tenn. Code Ann. § 17-2-303(b)(1) stating that for any former judge to qualify for a senior judge commission, the former judge must have left the judge's most recent term of judicial service in good standing with the Board of Judicial Conduct.
- It is assumed that the Supreme Court does not generally commission a former judge who left office in poor standing.
- The proposed legislation will not significantly impact the operations of the courts.

**CERTIFICATION:**

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



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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