

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 4078
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	10805
Author:	Rep. Wallace
Date:	2/28/2022
Impact:	Ongoing appropriations = \$1,185,000
	One-time costs = \$200,000
	FY-2023 Total = \$1,385,000

Research Analysis

The committee substitute for HB4078 creates the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation within the Council of Judicial Complaints. The office is tasked with providing training to the council, conducting surveys, conducting public education efforts, and collecting and reviewing data related to judicial performance.

The measure establishes uniform criteria and procedures for the office staff to conduct statewide judicial performance evaluations, which are then submitted to the council for approval or rejection. The allowed evaluation criteria includes: integrity, legal knowledge, communication skills, judicial temperament, administrative performance, and services to the legal profession.

For every newly appointed judge or justice, the office must conduct an initial evaluation followed by a subsequent interim evaluation within two years of the approval of the initial evaluation. The office is also tasked with conducting retention-year evaluation for every justice or judge who is up for a retention election.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The committee substitute would modify certain duties of the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation contemplated in the introduced version of the measure.

Upon review and with consultation from the Council on Judicial Complaints, passage of the measure will have a fiscal impact to the state. The measure would create an ongoing need of \$1,185,000 in additional appropriations for the Council on Judicial Complaints. An additional \$200,000 in one-time startup costs would also require additional appropriations to the Council.

These figures assume six additional FTE, and include salary and operations costs.

The committee substitute does not alter the fiscal impact of the introduced version.

Prepared By: Clayton Mayfield

Other Considerations

None.

