

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 462</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>ENGR</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. West (Josh)</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>4/5/2023</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>Please see previous summary of this measure</b>

**Research Analysis**

SB 462 requires all current municipal judges to complete a certification program by the Oklahoma Municipal Judges Association beginning July 1, 2025. Municipal judges appointed after July 1, 2025 will have one year to complete the certification program. The program must have a minimum of 12 hours of continuing legal education approved by the Oklahoma Bar Association Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission and include laws specific to municipal courts, trial evidentiary matters, criminal cases eligible for municipal courts, and indigency hearings. If a municipal judge fails to complete their certification, the maximum fine a municipal court can impose on all traffic and criminal cases is \$50. Municipal judges must file their Oklahoma Municipal Judge certifications with the county clerk and municipal court clerk.

Additionally, the measure prohibits appointing persons who are not a licensed attorney as a municipal judge beginning July 1, 2025. Non-attorney judges who were appointed prior to July 1, 2025 and who have completed the certification program can continue to be reappointed. The measure also allows municipal judges in cities with a population of more than 200,000 people to engage in the practice of law in any other court during their tenure.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

**Fiscal Analysis**

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

**Other Considerations**

None.