

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7656**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1676

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 15, 2007

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Judicial retention elections.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Brown C

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** \_\_\_ **GENERAL**  
                          \_\_\_ **DEDICATED**  
                          \_\_\_ **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Pending

**Summary of Legislation:** Requires the judicial nominating commission (commission) to solicit public comment as to whether a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of appeals, or a judge of the tax court whose retention in office is on a general election ballot should be retained in office. Requires the state bar association to survey attorneys and make a recommendation to the commission as to whether a justice or judge should be retained in office. Requires the commission to consider public comments, information from a justice or judge who is seeking retention, and the state bar association recommendations in making a recommendation as to whether a justice or judge should be retained in office. Requires the commission to disseminate its recommendations so as to reach the greatest number of members of the public who are eligible to vote in the general election at which the question of the retention of a justice or judge is on the ballot. Requires the judicial nominating commissions in Lake and St. Joseph counties to follow a similar procedure for superior court judges subject to a retention election in those counties. Requires the county bar associations in Lake and St. Joseph counties to survey attorneys in those counties and make a recommendation to the judicial nominating commission of the county as to whether a judge should be retained in office.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *As of the above date, the fiscal analysis of this bill has not been completed. Please contact the Office of Fiscal and Management Analysis for an update of this fiscal impact statement.*

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**

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