

Gavel to Gavel

A review of state legislation affecting the courts

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Focus: Indigent Defense/Pro Se Funding

For several states, the provision for funding of indigent criminal defense or the provision of legal services to selected pro se litigants rests within the state's judiciary budget line(s) or administrative jurisdiction. Even in states where the funding is separate from the courts, indigent legal aid directly impacts the courts ability to function. Legislative responses so far include:

Alabama's [HB 214](#) and [SB 86](#) would create an Alabama Indigent Defense Commission, an Office of Indigent Defense Services, and Indigent Defense Advisory Boards in each judicial circuit and transfer some of the budgetary and other responsibilities away from the state judiciary to those bodies.

California's [AB 131](#) would require the Judicial Council establish a cost recovery program to collect reimbursements for counsel appointed by the court to represent parents or minors in specified instances.

Georgia's [SB 42](#) revises the state's Indigent Defense Act and removes the power of the

state's Chief Justice and the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals to name members to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council. It also reformulates the way indigent defense is delivered in the state.

Missouri's [SB 37](#) authorizes the Public Defender Commission to establish maximum public defender caseload standards and details what actions the commission or its director may take when maximum caseload standards have been met.

Montana's [HB 1107](#) requires home rule counties to pay for indigent defense costs. [SB 263](#) would require counsel appointed by the court file bills of cost verified by affidavit and with detailed time and cost elements.

Nebraska's [LB 333](#) creates Supreme Court Access to Justice Cash Fund, to be administered by the State Court Administrator, for access to justice for indigent and pro se individuals who appear in court.

Nevada's [AB 45](#) requires the State to reimburse counties for expenditures made in providing defense services to indigent



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persons. It repeals the requirement that large counties create an office of public defender and instead requires the State Public Defender to establish at least one branch office in any county that does not have a county public defender.

New York's [AB 2496](#) establishes a state public defense commission and provides it the power to give local fiscal relief for public defense expenses.

Texas's [SB 625](#) converts the state Judicial Council's Task Force on Indigent Defense into the Indigent Defense Council while [SB 632](#) authorizes the governing body of a municipality to create a municipal court equal justice and education fund to help pay in part for indigent defense at the local level.

Washington's [HB 1902](#) and [SB 5073](#) abolish and consolidate into the state General Fund several accounts, including the Public Safety and Education Account and its Equal Justice Subaccount which are used to pay civil and criminal legal representation of indigent persons.

Selection: Newly Introduced

[Alabama HB 126](#) Provides for the nonpartisan election of candidates for state appellate judicial office and a corresponding special ballot for such elections. Provides that a reelection would be via retention election, rather than a contested election. Creates a judicial evaluation commission to evaluate performance of a state appellate judicial officer standing for reelection in a retention election and to recommend retention or not. In House Constitution and Elections Committee.

[Alabama HB 127](#) Provides for the nonpartisan election of candidates for state appellate judicial office and a corresponding special ballot for such elections. In House Constitution and Elections Committee.

[Alabama HB 393 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Permits recall of all elected officials, including judges. In House Constitution and Elections

[Arizona SB 1378](#) Requires proceedings of the commission on appellate court appointments and the commission on trial court appointments be electronically broadcast over the internet in real time and stored in an electronic archive. In Senate (no committee).

[Arizona SB 1434](#) Requires that commission on Judicial Performance Review produce publicity pamphlet regarding judges up for retention election. Requires information for appellate and trial court judges include a summary of decisions in which the judge declared a statute unconstitutional and a brief statement of the reason why. Requires information on trial judges to include how often the judge was overturned, in criminal cases how often the judge granted lenient sentences. Allows anyone to include statements for or against the judge in pamphlet. Prohibits any disciplinary action against any attorney who places a statement in the pamphlet. In Senate (no committee).

[Arizona SCR 1020 \(Constitutional Amendment\)](#) Ends state's commissions on appellate and trial court appointments. Allows governor to nominate any person of his/her choosing subject to Senate confirmation. Subsequent terms to be

obtained through retention election. In Senate (no committee).

Arizona SCR 1040 Increases to 750,000 the population requirement for a county to have merit selection for judges (currently 250,000). In Senate (no committee).

Illinois SCA 9 (Constitutional Amendment) Allows for recall for supreme, appellate, and circuit judges and other elected officials. In Senate Assignments Committee.

Kentucky HB 238 Requires voters in judicial elections to complete their ballots by ranking candidates in order of choice. Eliminate primaries in judicial elections. Requires all judicial candidates to file petitions of candidacy. In House Elections, Const. Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

Minnesota HB 440 (Constitutional Amendment) Executive officer, judge, or legislator required to be elected by a majority of the votes cast at the general election for the office. In House State and Local Government Operations Reform, Technology and Elections Committee.

Montana LD 1760 (Bill Draft Request) Requires all judges be elected by partisan ballot. Eliminates prohibition on party endorsement of judicial candidates. In Drafting Process

New York AB 3866 Directs the commission on judicial nominations to forward to the governor all well qualified candidates for associate judge and/or chief judge. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Oklahoma SJR 27 (Constitutional Amendment) Allows the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to each select one member of the Judicial Nominating Commission. In Senate Judiciary Committee.

Wisconsin AJR 6 (Constitutional Amendment) Requires the governor to appoint, with the advice and consent of the senate, justices of the supreme court for ten-year terms. At the conclusion of their terms, the terms of justices would be automatically renewed unless they are rejected in a reaffirmation vote by a vote of at least 13 of the members of the senate. If the senate does not reaffirm, the governor would be required to appoint a new justice. Previously elected justices whose terms expire two or more years after ratification will serve out the terms for which they were elected and may be reaffirmed for additional terms by the senate. Previously elected justices whose terms expire less than two years after ratification may stand for reelection in the final year of their terms. In Assembly Elections and Campaign Reform Committee.

Selection: Floor and Committee Activity

Arkansas HB 1263 Provides that should a vacancy occur in the office of county judge during a declared emergency, the office is to be temporarily filled based on a list previously prepared by the county judge designating 3 people, in order of succession. Approved by House City, County and Local Affairs Committee 2/4/09. Approved by full House 2/5/09. In Senate City, County and Local Affairs Committee.

Indiana HB 1491 ORIGINAL: Eliminates merit selection system for election of superior court judges in St. Joseph County and replaces with nonpartisan elections. **FLOOR AMENDED**: Same, but puts in campaign contributions limits for St. Joseph County superior court race: \$500 per person, \$1000 per lawfirm, \$10,000 total from all sources. **PROPOSED FLOOR AMENDMENT**: Prohibits courts from ordering state or a political subdivision of the state to appropriate or pay unappropriated funds for the operation of courts or court related functions. Approved by House Committee on Courts and Criminal Code 2/5/09. Floor Amendment approved 2/10/09 by full House.

Indiana SB 132 Provides that the judges of the Lake superior court county division to be selected by merit selection. Approved as amended by Senate Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedure 1/29/09. In Senate Judiciary Committee.

Qualifications and Terms: Newly Introduced

Illinois SCA 10 (Constitutional Amendment) Requires that where a Supreme Court Judge recuses in a particular case because of an actual or potential conflict of interest the Judge shall notify the Clerk of the Supreme Court in writing of the recusal and a Judge of the Appellate Court shall be selected at random to serve as an Interim Supreme Court Judge. In Senate Assignments Committee.

Kansas HB 2164 Permits judges that reach the mandatory retirement age of 75 to finish

out their current term. In House Judiciary Committee

Mississippi HB 1552 Requires the senior judge of a chancery or circuit court district consult with all judges in the court district before asking the Supreme Court to appoint a special judge to help ease docket overcrowding. Limits special judge's appointment to six months with the possibility of one additional 6 month renewal. In House Judiciary A Committee.

Texas HB 957 Prohibits anyone currently serving in judicial office from serving in the state legislature. Prohibits anyone serving in the state legislature from serving as a judicial officer. Prefiled.

Qualification and Terms: Floor and Committee Activity

Mississippi HB 998 ORIGINAL: Exempts from new educational requirements all sitting justice court judges. SUBSTITUTED: Exempts from new competency examination all sitting justice court judges. Approved as substituted by House Judiciary A Committee 2/3/09.

Virginia SB 856 Increases the mandatory retirement age for judges from age 70 to age 75. Approved by Senate Finance Committee 2/4/09.

Virginia SB 1081 Clarifies that a special justice serves at the pleasure of the chief justice of the judicial circuit in which he serves, rather than the specific chief justice that makes the original appointment. Approved by Senate Committee for Courts of Justice 2/4/09.

[Virginia SB 1434](#) Provides that the chief justice of the Virginia Supreme Court shall serve as chief justice for only two consecutive terms. "Passed by" indefinitely by Senate Committee for Courts of Justice 2/2/09.

Rule Making Authority: Newly Introduced

[Arizona SB 1332](#) Requires supreme court license attorneys for the practice of law in this state and establish rules on minimum qualifications, testing, background checks, and discipline. Provides that an attorney shall not be required to be a member of any organization to become or remain a licensed attorney. In Senate (no committee).

[Connecticut HB 6340](#) Changes process of General Assembly review of proposed court rules revisions. Extends Judicial Selection Commission's power to include review of judicial referee's seeking reappointment. Requires Commission release names of qualified candidates for the position of associate judge or Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and keep confidential names for all other judicial vacancies. Requires number of votes for and against appointment or reappointment of an incumbent judge to the same or a different court be public. Requires Judicial Review Council give notice of the time and place of its meetings, and make the agendas public (except for personally identifiable information that might identify respondents). Requires all admonishments be made public. Requires, with limited exceptions, the entire record of any investigation by the Council be open for public inspection. Allows Council to impose civil penalties of up to \$10,000. Sets terms

of the Chief Court Administrator and Probate Court Administrator as coterminous with the term of the appointing Chief Justice. Specifically defines "administrative functions" of the courts for purposes of open records requests. Requires judiciary make criminal docket of the Superior Court, including the docket number, name of the defendant, year of birth of the defendant and charge, and conviction information available to the public on its Internet web site. Makes any police report submitted to demonstrate probable cause an open public record unless sealed by court. Grants three business days (rather than 72 hours) to appeal order closing judicial proceedings or records. In Joint Committee on Judiciary.

[Georgia HB 235](#) Removes requirement of publishing a volume of court rules by state publisher of court reports. Provides for the maintenance of a rules compilation online instead. In House Judiciary Committee

Rule Making Authority: Floor and Committee Activity

[Arkansas HB 1033](#) Repeals Reporter of the Supreme Court's power to omit decisions from publication. Repeals requirement that published volumes of Supreme Court and Court of Appeals decisions be delivered to state and local officials and permits destruction of published volumes if available electronically. Requires all opinions be available for free online. Permits Reporter of the Supreme Court to oversee publication and distribution of the decisions of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals in such format and medium as the Supreme Court may direct. Approved by full House 1/30/09.

Arkansas SB 33 Amends Supreme Court Rule 5-2. Requires that, except for an order affirmed without an opinion, all opinions (published or ``unpublished``) are precedent and may be relied upon and cited by any party in any proceeding. Specifies that whether an opinion is included in the Arkansas Reports or Arkansas Appellate Reports shall have no effect on its precedential value. Approved by Senate Committee on Judiciary 2/4/09. Approved by full Senate 2/5/09.

Georgia HB 185 Authorizes Chief Justice to extend the duration of a judicial emergency order when a public health emergency exists until the emergency ends (currently a maximum of 60 days). Approved by House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security 2/5/09.

Mississippi HB 484 Specifies that the rules created by the supreme court shall not abridge, enlarge or modify any substantive right. Specifies all laws in conflict with such rules shall be of no further force or effect after such rules have taken effect. Requires all rules be approved by legislature before taking effect. Approved by full House 2/5/09.

Montana SB 197 Defines court transcripts costs. Permits office of the court administrator to adjust courts annually based on consumer price index. Floor amended and approved by Senate as amended 2/2/09. In House Judiciary Committee.

South Dakota SB 99 Authorizes Supreme Court to issue rules for the collection of fees, costs, or civil penalties assessed by local governmental entities. Approved by

Senate Judiciary Committee 2/3/09.
Approved by full Senate 2/4/09.

Virginia HB 1946 Gives the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court the responsibility for the operation of maintenance of a statewide case management system and financial management system, for related technology improvements, and requires that he permit an interface to any circuit court that uses automation or technology improvements provided by a private vendor or the locality. Requires costs of designing and implementing any such interface be the responsibility of the circuit court clerk. Approved as amended by full House 2/5/09.

Structure Changes: Newly Introduced

Connecticut HB 6385 Deletes all existing probate district boundaries and makes new probate court districts the same as state senatorial districts. Requires probate judges have been admitted to the Connecticut bar at least 10 years. Directs Probate Court Administrator establish and maintain a budget for the probate court system and allocate the budgets for each court based upon the weighted workload of the court. Directs Probate Court Administrator ensure that all staff, including judges, who are offered insurance or retirement benefits work a minimum of twenty hours per week. Requires probate courts be open for business at least 40 hours a week (currently minimum of 20). In Joint Committee on Judiciary.

Michigan HB 4140 Recreates Detroit Recorder's Court consisting of 29 judges to have exclusive jurisdiction over criminal cases punishable by over 1 year

imprisonment. Removes judges from surrounding Circuit Court. In House Judiciary Committee

Oklahoma SB 548 Requires each district court to create a drug court (currently, they may create). In Senate Appropriations Committee.

Oklahoma SB 845 Creates State Drug Court Director to oversee all such courts in the state. In Senate (no committee).

Rhode Island HB 5288 Repeals retired justices program which allowed former justices/judges to hear civil cases. In House Judiciary Committee.

Tennessee HB 318 Requires judicial council to draft proposal reconstituting existing judicial districts by January 1, 2010, based upon population and provides that future determinations as to need for new judicial positions be based exclusively on population rather than weighted caseload formula. Prefiled.

Washington SJR 8212 (Constitutional Amendment) Increases membership of commission on judicial conduct to include 2 court of appeals judges, 2 superior court judges and 2 limited jurisdiction judges (currently one of each serve). Provides that commission members or alternates who take part in the determination of probable cause regarding a complaint about a judge shall not participate in any further proceedings on that cause. In Senate Judiciary Committee.

Structure Changes: Floor and Committee Activity

New Mexico SB 365 Establishes a veterans' court, ensuring intervention and diversion to constructive social programs for appropriate veterans of the United States armed services who break a law as a result of posttraumatic stress or substance abuse. Approved by Senate Judiciary Committee 2/2/09. In Senate Finance Committee.

Wyoming SB 107 Repeals existing drug court program. Creates court supervised treatment programs and permits judges to participate as they wish. Approved by full Senate 2/5/09.

Jurisdiction: Newly Introduced

Florida SB 1142 Redefines "official misconduct" for state ethics purposes to include a judicial officer's "Render[ing] any ruling, opinion, action, or inaction adverse to the doctrines of stare decisis, binding precedent, or the supremacy clause of the United States Constitution when he or she is clearly apprised of evidence, unless he or she has the authority to overrule or recede from the rule of law, or distinguishes the rule of law or sets forth some other intervening or superseding evidence, and does so by the ruling, opinion, action, or inaction." Requires state attorneys and law enforcement "strictly enforce without discretion" the provision. In Senate (no committee).

Georgia HB 220 Provides a uniform 90 days for judges of the superior, state, or city courts for issuing orders on motions (currently, judges in counties below 100,000

population are given 30 days). In House Judiciary Committee.

Kentucky HB 243 Raises small claims limits from \$1500 to \$3000. In House Judiciary Committee.

New Hampshire SB 163 Limits the powers of justices of the peace to administering oaths, performing marriage ceremonies, and acknowledging instruments. In Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee.

New York AB 3876 Increases the jurisdictional limit from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for justice courts. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

New York AB 4070 Increases the jurisdictional limit from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for justice courts. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Jurisdiction: Floor and Committee Activity

North Dakota HB 1296 Increases to \$10,000 from \$5,000 small claims jurisdiction. Approved by full House 2/4/09.

Virginia SB 854 Directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to establish by January 1, 2010, no less than two and no more than five mental health courts in Virginia for nonviolent offenders with serious mental illnesses. Approved as substituted by Senate Committee for Courts of Justice 2/5/09.

Salary and Budget: Newly Introduced

Arkansas HB 1353 Provides structure for the perpetual staffing and operation of the state's Automated Court Management System so that the system is self-supporting and all funding is generated by and through use of the system and without any use of general revenue funds. In House Committee on Judiciary.

Florida SB 1086 Re-creates the Federal Grants Trust Fund within the state courts system without modification. Abrogates provisions relating to the termination of the trust fund. In Senate (no committee).

Florida SB 1106 Re-creates the Operating Trust Fund within the state courts system without modification. Abrogates provisions relating to the termination of the trust fund. In Senate (no committee).

Georgia HB 289 Ends the Georgia Courts Automation Commission and transfers contracts/authority to the Administrative Office of the Courts. In House Judiciary Committee.

Georgia SB 109 Removes duties and obligations regarding retirement and pension from the Department of Administrative Services and transfers them to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia, the Council of State Court Judges of Georgia, the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of the State of Georgia, and the Council of Juvenile Court Judges, as appropriate. In Senate Retirement Committee.

Hawaii HB 1536 Freezes the salaries of state office holders, including justices and

judges of all state courts. In House Labor and Finance Committees.

Hawaii HB 1816 Reduces by 5 percent the current salaries of certain employees of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Freezes salaries of such employees for fiscal years

Hawaii SB 927 Requests State leaders to "lead by example" by deferring for two years salary increases recommended by the 2006 State Commission on Salaries for legislators, judges, and senior officials of the Executive Branch for fiscal years

Illinois SB 63 Requires that the Compensation Review Board file separate reports with respect to (i) State executive branch constitutional officers and General Assembly members and (ii) judges and all other offices. Provides that a report is effective if approved in whole or reduced by a resolution adopted by the General Assembly (now, effective unless disapproved in whole or reduced by a resolution adopted by the General Assembly). Requires a separate resolution and vote for each report. In Senate Executive Committee.

Illinois SB 190 Revamps the Compensation Review Board members and membership criteria. Requires Board prepare and file a separate report with respect to each of the 3 branches of State government (now, the Board prepares and files one report). Provides that a report is effective if approved in whole or reduced by a resolution adopted by the General Assembly (now, effective unless disapproved in whole or reduced by a resolution adopted by the

General Assembly). In Senate Assignments Committee.

Minnesota SB 372 Institutes a freeze on salaries and wage rates for judicial and other government employees. In Senate State and Local Government Operations and Oversight Committee.

Pennsylvania HB 119 Creates Commission on Salaries and Benefits for Elected Officials to set judicial and other salaries. In House State Government Committee.

Pennsylvania HB 228 Ends automatic cost of living adjustments to judicial and other salaries. In House State Government Committee.

Texas SB 632 Authorizes the governing body of a municipality to create a municipal court equal justice and education fund and to require certain defendants to pay court costs for deposit in the fund. Prefiled.

Vermont HB 144 Directs that legislative and judicial branches budget report and funding requests be transmitted directly to the general assembly and not the governor. In House Committee on Government Operations.

Washington HB 1902 Abolishes and consolidates into the state General Fund several accounts, including the Public Safety and Education Account and its Equal Justice Subaccount, used to pay for judicial education and court administration, the judicial information system, civil and criminal legal representation of indigent persons, drug court operations, and contributions to district and municipal

judges' salaries. In House Committee on Ways & Means.

Washington HB 1919 Provides funding from the criminal justice treatment account for the operation and administration of a drug court program. In House Human Services Committee.

Salary and Budget: Floor and Committee Activity

Colorado SB 38 Removes the 2010 repeal of the docket fees for county court civil actions. Approved by full Senate 2/2/09. In House Judiciary Committee.

Maryland SB 307 Provides that the salary increase recommendations in the joint resolution of the Judicial Compensation Commission may not be deemed to have been made effective if the joint resolution is not passed by the General Assembly by the 50th day of the 2009 Session. Resets date commission meets, providing that the Commission shall now meet every 4 years, beginning on September 1, 2009. Approved by Senate Budget and Taxation Committee 2/5/09.

Virginia SB 923 Repeals the section granting mileage reimbursement for circuit judges to travel to and from the courthouse each day if they do not reside in the county seat. Approved by Senate Committee on Finance 2/5/09.

Virginia SB 1078 Provides that special justices, retired judges, or district court substitute judges presiding over involuntary commitment hearings shall receive a fee for each hearing that includes mileage, parking,

tolls, and postage. Approved by Senate Committee for Courts of Justice 2/5/09.

Virginia SB 1387 Increases the fee on civil and criminal cases to be used for courthouse construction, renovation, or maintenance. Approved as amended by Senate Committee on Finance 2/4/09.

Other: Newly Introduced

Arkansas SB 303 Requires court security personnel complete additional training recommended by the Supreme Court Security and Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee and approved by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training. (Currently, training need only be approved by Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training). In Senate Committee on Judiciary.

Florida SB 1074 Provides that any active, retired or senior status judge who is otherwise in compliance with concealed weapons requirements may carry a firearm at any time & into any place except a prison, jail, airport, or where carrying a concealed weapon is restricted by federal law. In Senate Criminal Justice, Judiciary, & Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Committees.

Hawaii HB 1109 Requests State leaders to "lead by example" by deferring for two years salary increases recommended by the 2006 State Commission on Salaries for legislators, judges, and senior officials of the Executive Branch for fiscal years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. In House Labor and Finance Committees.

Missouri SB 265 Removes 2011 sunset provision for Statewide Court Automation Fund. In Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee.

New Mexico HB 529 Adds municipal judges to judicial standards commission. House Health and Government Affairs Committee.

New Mexico HJR 12 (Constitutional Amendment) Adds municipal judges to judicial standards commission. In House Voters & Elections Committee.

New York AB 3581 Requires the chief administrator of the courts to report annually to the legislature and the governor about the function and effectiveness of drug courts in the state operating as part of the Drug Courts Treatment Program. In Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Tennessee HB 259 Creates offense of a terroristic threat or act with the intent to retaliate against, among others, judges. Prefiled.

Texas HB 890 Changes use of the term of office of judicial "master" to "associate judge". Prefiled.

Utah SJR 6 Amends legislative rules to provide guidelines and restrictions for legislators when communicating with judges and others. Prohibits legislators from communicating with a judge in reference to a particular judicial case or proceeding until a final order has been made. Provides guidelines for communicating with the Administrative Office of the Courts or the clerk of the court in other circumstances. Provides guidelines for keeping records of

communications with the judiciary. Provides exception to communications made in the ordinary course of a legislator's private employment, except where a legislator attempts to use his or her status as legislator to exert undue influence. In Senate Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Committee.

Other: Floor and Committee Activity

Mississippi SB 3081 Exempts all judges from state regulations regarding wireless communications devices assigned to state employees. Approved by Senate Fees, Salaries and Administration Committee 2/3/09.

New Hampshire SB 33 Allows lobbyists and those connected with lobbyists to sit on committees established by the judicial branch. Approved by full Senate 2/4/09.

New Mexico HB 101 Allows judges to substitute either a personal post office box or the address of the court where they preside in lieu of a physical residence address on any license, permit or identification card issued by any state agency or local public body. Allows for use of post office box/court address on voter registration certificate while still being assigned to a precinct based on the justice's, judge's or magistrate's actual physical residence address. Approved by House Voters & Elections Committee 2/3/09. In House Judiciary Committee.

New Mexico SB 126 Prohibits the intimidation or threatening of a judge or a staff or family member of a judge who is or may become involved in a judicial,

administrative, legislative or other official cause or proceeding for the purpose of preventing or influencing a ruling, finding, prosecution, investigation, testimony, report or sentence. Criminalizes retaliation, i.e. causing bodily injury to or damage to the property of a judge or a staff or family member of a judge or threatening to do so, with the intent to retaliate against the judge for a ruling, finding, prosecution, investigation, testimony, report or sentence. Approved by Senate Public Affairs Committee 2/3/09.

Virginia SB 1284 Allows persons designated to provide courthouse security who have previously been certified and served as law-enforcement officers, other than a person terminated for cause, to meet reduced minimum compulsory training standards. Stricken at request of author by Senate Committee for Courts of Justice 2/4/09.

Virginia SJR 359 Continues the joint subcommittee to study the operations of circuit court clerks' offices. Approved by full Senate 2/4/09.

Washington HB 1369 Allows clerk of the superior court to keep offices at places in a county other than the county seat. Approved as substituted by House Local Government & Housing Committee 2/2/09.

Washington SB 5233 Allows clerk of the superior court to keep offices at places in a county other than the county seat. Approved by Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee 2/2/09.

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