

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2225 Relating to Courts

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Sollman

HB 2225 makes various program and language changes to statutes impacting the Judicial Department, including modifications to the process of appointing senior judges, specifications on when senior judges are authorized to issue search warrants, clarifies the service of parenting time motions, modifies provisions related to contempt of court, and modifies electronic records policy.

The measure increases the transcription fee from \$3.00 to \$4.25 per page and allows the Judicial Department to periodically increase the fee based on the Consumer Price Index. The measure also reduces the circuit court filing fee for contempt proceedings from \$111 to \$56. The fee changes are effective October 1, 2023.

The measure appropriates \$902,665 General Fund to the Public Defense Services Commission and \$50,000 General Fund to the Department of Justice for the increased cost of transcriptions.

This measure declares an emergency and is effective upon passage.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends HB 2225 be amended by the –2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.