

HB 1560 -- ST. LOUIS CITY CIRCUIT CLERK

SPONSOR: Diehl

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 10 to 0.

Currently, the circuit clerk in the 22nd Judicial Circuit for the City of St. Louis is elected by the qualified voters of the city. This bill requires him or her to be appointed by a majority of the circuit judges and associate circuit judges of the circuit court, en banc. The clerk must be removable for cause by a majority of the circuit judges and associate judges of the circuit, en banc, in accordance with Supreme Court administrative rules governing court personnel. The elected circuit clerk who is holding office when these provisions become effective must continue to hold office for the duration of his or her elected term.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that it would be more efficient to allow the circuit clerk to be appointed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Diehl; Steven R. Ohmer, Presiding Judge, 22nd Judicial District; Judicial Conference of Missouri; and Jane Schweitzer, Circuit Court Clerk, 22nd Judicial District.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.