

HJR 24 -- SELECTION OF JUDGES

SPONSOR: Hardwick

Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment would change the way judges are selected. Currently, when a judicial vacancy occurs in the Missouri Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals, a nonpartisan judicial commission nominates three qualified individuals and submits their names to the Governor, who then must appoint one of the three within 60 days. If the Governor fails to appoint one of the three within 60 days, the Judicial Commission appoints one of its nominees. This resolution proposes an amendment to eliminate the Judicial Commission and have the Governor appoint a judge, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Currently, judges of the Missouri Supreme Court and judges of the Court of Appeals are selected for 12-year terms. This resolution proposes to change the selection to one 16-year term.