



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7400

LCO No. 6619



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE COMMISSIONS AND TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 51-275a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) (1) There is established a Criminal Justice Commission which,
4 prior to July 1, 2020, shall be composed of the Chief State's Attorney
5 and six members nominated by the Governor and appointed by the
6 General Assembly in accordance with section 4-2, two of whom shall
7 be judges of the Superior Court.

8 (2) On and after July 1, 2020, the Criminal Justice Commission shall
9 be composed of the Chief State's Attorney and seven members
10 nominated by the Governor and appointed by the General Assembly
11 in accordance with section 4-2, two of whom shall be judges of the
12 Superior Court and at least one of whom shall be a person who is
13 justice-impacted.

14 (b) The chairman shall be appointed by the Governor.

15 (c) Members shall serve without compensation but shall be
16 reimbursed for actual expenses incurred while engaged in the duties of
17 the commission.

18 (d) The commission shall post notices concerning the time, date and
19 place of meetings of the commission on an Internet web site operated
20 by the commission.

21 (e) Any meeting of the commission shall be held in the Legislative
22 Office Building.

23 ~~[(d)]~~ (f) The commission may adopt such rules as it deems necessary
24 for the conduct of its internal affairs.

25 ~~[(e)]~~ (g) The commission may adopt regulations in accordance with
26 chapter 54 to carry out its responsibilities under this chapter.

27 ~~[(f)]~~ (h) The commission shall be within the Division of Criminal
28 Justice. Said division shall provide staff support for the commission.

29 Sec. 2. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 51-289 of the
30 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
31 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

32 (a) There is established a Public Defender Services Commission
33 which shall consist of ~~[seven]~~ eight members appointed as follows:

34 (1) The Chief Justice shall appoint two judges of the Superior Court,
35 or a judge of the Superior Court and any one of the following: A
36 retired judge of the Superior Court, a former judge of the Superior
37 Court, a retired judge of the Circuit Court, or a retired judge of the
38 Court of Common Pleas;

39 (2) The speaker of the House, the president pro tempore of the
40 Senate, the minority leader of the House and the minority leader of the
41 Senate shall each appoint one member; and

42 (3) The Governor shall appoint a member who shall be a person
43 who is justice-impacted and a [chairman] chairperson.

44 (b) The [chairman] chairperson shall serve for a three-year term and
45 all appointments of members to replace those whose terms expire shall
46 be for terms of three years.

47 (c) Not more than [three] four of the members, other than the
48 [chairman] chairperson, may be members of the same political party.
49 Of the [four] five nonjudicial members, other than the [chairman]
50 chairperson, at least two shall not be members of the bar of any state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	51-275a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	51-289(a) to (c)

Statement of Purpose:

To add a justice-impacted person to the Criminal Justice and the Public Defender Service Commissions and to provide for transparency and public input concerning the Criminal Justice Commission.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]