

Independent Judiciary Legislation

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Senate Confirmation of Supreme Court and District Court of Appeals Judges

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Status</i>
SJR 1664	Relating to Senate Confirmation/Appointments to Supreme Court	Bogdanoff	Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to require Senate confirmation of appointments to the office of justice of the Supreme Court.	03/31/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 04/05/11, 3:30 pm, 110 S
HJR 1097	Relating to Senate Confirmation of Justices and Judges	McBurney	Proposes amendment to s. 11, Art. V of State Constitution to provide for Senate confirmation of justices & judges subject to merit-retention vote. Effective Date: Not Specified	03/17/11 HOUSE Favorable by Civil Justice Subcommittee; 10 Yeas, 5 Nays HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee

Supreme Court and District Court of Appeals Opinions

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Status</i>
SB 996	Relating to Communications Among Branches of State Government	Simmons	Cites this act as the "Communication of Judicial Opinions Act." Requires the clerks of the State Supreme Court and district courts of appeal to transmit certain judicial opinions to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives within a specified time. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011	03/31/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 04/05/11, 3:30 pm, 110 S
HB 87	Relating to Communications Among the Branches of State Government	Soto	Designates act "Communication of Judicial Opinions Act"; requires clerks of State Supreme Court & district courts of appeal to transmit certain judicial opinions to Governor, President of Senate, & Speaker of House of Representatives within specified time. Effective Date: July 1, 2011	03/16/11 HOUSE Favorable by Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee; 11 Yeas, 1 Nay HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee

Court Rulemaking

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Status</i>
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HJR 7025	Relating to Rules of Court	Eisnaugle	Proposes amendment to s. 2, Art. V of State Constitution to provide that no court may adopt rules of practice & procedure; Supreme Court may recommend rules to be adopted, amended, or rejected by Legislature; & providing that, in event of conflict, statute supersedes rule. Effective Date: Not Specified	03/10/11 HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee
SJR 2084	Repeal of Supreme Court Rule by General Law	Judiciary	Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to reduce the vote threshold required for the Legislature to enact a law repealing a rule of court and to prohibit the Supreme Court from readopting a rule repealed by the Legislature for a prescribed period.	03/29/11 SENATE Filed (Formerly PCB 7076) 03/30/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 04/04/11, 3:15 pm, 110 S

JQC Transparency

Bill Number	Title	Sponsor	Summary	Status
SJR 1704	Relating to Judicial Qualifications Commission	Hays	Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to require that certain proceedings, records, and materials of the Judicial Qualifications Commission be open to the public and to require the commission to notify the Speaker of the House of Representatives of complaints received or initiated, investigations conducted, and complaints concluded.	03/30/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 04/04/11, 3:15 pm, 110 S

HJR 7037	Relating to Judicial Qualifications Commission	Harrison	Proposes amendment to s. 12, Art. V of State Constitution to provide that all records, materials, & proceedings related to complaints & investigations of Judicial Qualifications Commission not otherwise exempt from disclosure are public upon filing of formal charges against judge or upon determination by commission or investigative panel that formal charges will not be filed; removes outdated provisions. Effective Date: Not Specified	03/14/11 HOUSE Referred to Judiciary Committee HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee
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Judicial Retention Elections (60%)

Bill Number	Title	Sponsor	Summary	Status
SJR 1672	Relating to Retention of Justices or Judges	Flores	Proposes amendments to the State Constitution to increase the vote required to retain a justice or judge in a judicial office and to provide for the increased vote requirement to apply beginning with retention elections during the 2012 General Election.	03/30/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 04/04/11, 3:15 pm, 110 S
HJR 7039	Relating to Retention of Justices or Judges	Hager	Proposes amendment to s. 10, Art. V of State Constitution to increase percentage of votes necessary to retain justices & judges. Effective Date: Not Specified	03/14/11 HOUSE Referred to Judiciary Committee HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee

Judicial Nominating Commissions

HB 7101	Relating to Judicial Nominating Commissions	Eisnaugle	Judicial Nominating Commissions - Removes role of Florida Bar	03/22/11 HOUSE Referred to Judiciary Committee HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee
SB 7222	Relating to Judicial Nominating Commissions	Flores	Provides for the Attorney General, rather than the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar, to submit nominees for certain positions on judicial nominating commissions. Provides for the termination of terms of all current members of judicial nominating commissions. Provides for staggered terms of newly appointed members. EFFECTIVE DATE: upon becoming a law	03/30/11 SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 04/04/11, 3:15 pm, 110 S

Division of Supreme Court into Criminal Appeals and Civil Appeals

HB 7111	Relating to Supreme Court	Eisnaugle	Proposes amendments to ss. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, & 15 of Art. V, s. 2 of Art. II, ss. 16, 17, & 19 of Art. III, ss. 1, 3, 4, 10, & 13 of Art. IV, & s. 2 of Art. XI, & creation of s. 21 of Art. V, of State Constitution to create Supreme Court of Civil Appeals & Supreme Court of Criminal Appeals; provides for administration of courts; provides for transition from present Supreme Court. Effective Date: Not Specified	03/22/11 HOUSE Filed (Formerly PCB CVJ6) HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee
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HB 7199	Relating to Supreme Court Organization	Eisnaugle	Implements provisions of joint resolution creating Supreme Court of Civil Appeals & Supreme Court of Criminal Appeals; clarifies jurisdiction of supreme courts; deletes obsolete provisions; provides for jurisdiction, membership, & headquarters of Supreme Court of Civil Appeals & Supreme Court of Criminal Appeals; provides for location of Supreme Court Building. Effective Date: on the effective date of House Joint Resolution 7111, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, if that joint resolution is approved by the electors at the general election to be held in November 2012.	03/31/11 HOUSE Now in Judiciary Committee
HB 7113	Supreme Court Provisions	Metz	Repeals provisions relating to restricting practice of law by retired justice, requirement to appoint Clerk of Supreme Court, requirement that clerk have office in Supreme Clerk Building, requirement that clerk perform duties as directed by court, & provision by which rules of court supersede statutes. Effective Date: July 1, 2011	3/24/11 HOUSE Placed on Calendar
HB 7115	Judicial Census Commissions	Bernard	Repeals provisions relating to judicial census commissions. Effective Date: July 1, 2011	3/24/11 HOUSE Placed on Calendar
HB 7117	Executive Officer of Circuit Court	Passidomo	Repeals provisions providing that county sheriff serve as executive officer of circuit court; removes provision requiring sheriff to perform duties of executive officer of county court. Effective Date: July 1, 2011	03/24/11 HOUSE Not Considered by Judiciary Committee

HB 7119	District Court	Passidomo	Repeals provisions relating to requirement that district court sit in three judge panels & have majority for decision & requirement that clerk of district court perform duties prescribed by rule of court. Effective Date: July 1, 2011	03/30/11 HOUSE Not Considered by Judiciary Committee
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