



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Committee Bill No. 5382**

LCO No. 3714

\*            HB05382GAE            050505            \*

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE PROBATE COURT SYSTEM.***

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

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a Blue  
2       Ribbon Commission on the Probate Court System. The commission  
3       shall conduct a study of the probate court system in this state,  
4       including, but not limited to, an examination of issues regarding  
5       probate court venue, jurisdiction, organization and financing and the  
6       future of the probate court system.

7       (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

8       (1) Two members appointed by the speaker of the House of  
9       Representatives;

10      (2) Two members appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
11      Senate;

12      (3) One member appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
13      Representatives;

- 14 (4) One member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- 15 (5) One member appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
16 Representatives;
- 17 (6) One member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- 18 (7) One member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme  
19 Court; and
- 20 (8) Two members appointed by the Governor.
- 21 (c) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivision  
22 (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a  
23 member of the General Assembly. The members appointed under  
24 subsection (b) of this section shall include: (1) At least one judge of  
25 probate representing a large size probate district, at least one judge of  
26 probate representing a medium size probate district and at least one  
27 judge of probate representing a small size probate district, as such  
28 probate district sizes are determined by the appointing authority,  
29 provided such probate district sizes shall be represented equally  
30 among such member judges; (2) at least one judge of probate who is  
31 not an attorney; (3) at least one professor of law who is an expert in the  
32 law of trusts and estates; and (4) at least two public members that are  
33 not attorneys.
- 34 (d) All appointments to the commission shall be made not later than  
35 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
36 filled by the appointing authority.
- 37 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
38 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the  
39 commission, from among the members of the commission. Such  
40 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, to be  
41 held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- 42 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the

43 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
44 judiciary shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

45 (g) Not later than January 1, 2006, the commission shall submit a  
46 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
47 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
48 relating to the judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section  
49 11-4a of the general statutes. The commission shall terminate on the  
50 date that it submits such report or January 1, 2006, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*