

HOUSE AMENDMENT 1 TO hb2226.

deleting lines 12 through 27 on page 2 and substituting therefor the following:

~~"(a) All bills introduced in either house of the General Assembly to change any of the existing circuit and chancery court districts through redistricting or by providing additional judgeships shall be referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee if the bill is from the Senate, or the House Judiciary Committee if the bill is from the House of Representatives.~~

~~—— (b) The Senate or House Judiciary Committee shall request a letter certifying whether or not the proposed change meets the criteria of the Arkansas Judicial Council which shall be certified by the secretary treasurer of the Arkansas Judicial Council.~~

~~—— (c) No bill to change any of the existing circuit and chancery court districts through redistricting or providing additional judgeships shall be acted upon in either committee until a letter certifying that the proposed change meets the criteria has been attached to the bill. Upon suspension of the Joint Rules of the House and Senate, a bill may be withdrawn from the House or Senate Judiciary Committee and acted upon without the certification of the council attached thereto.' "~~

AND

deleting lines 31 through 36 on page 2 and lines 1 through 10 on page 3 and substituting therefore the following:

"(a) The ~~Arkansas Judicial Council~~ Judicial Resources Council, hereinafter referred to as the "council", is authorized ~~and directed to develop criteria for new judgeships or redistricting of the circuit and chancery court districts of this state and~~ to make recommendations to the regular or special session of the General Assembly regarding the number and boundaries of the circuit and chancery court districts in the state, the number and types of judges in each of such districts, and such other matters regarding circuit and chancery courts in the state as it determines to be appropriate.

(b) In ~~establishing~~ recommending circuit and chancery court districts of this state, the council shall take into consideration caseload, geographic area to be served by the respective circuit courts and chancery courts, and such other matters as the council determines to be appropriate.

~~—— (c) The council shall meet on or before November 1 of each even numbered year to finalize criteria for establishing additional judgeships or redistricting during the next regular session of the General Assembly.' "~~