

HOUSE BILL 409

By Pitts

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section
40-1-111, relative to judicial commissioners.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-1-111, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(f)

(1) Beginning January 1, 2010, each judicial commissioner who is appointed to serve pursuant to this section must complete twelve (12) hours of continuing education each calendar year, ten (10) hours of which must be completed by attendance at conferences or courses sponsored or approved by the Judicial Commissioners Association of Tennessee. The remaining two (2) hours may be completed by attendance at classes sponsored by either the Judicial Commissioners Association of Tennessee or the Tennessee Court Clerks Association, or by local in-service education. At least six (6) hours of the total twelve (12) hours must be taught by a person who is licensed to practice law in Tennessee.

(2) Any judicial commissioner who is licensed to practice law in Tennessee is authorized to use continuing legal education credits toward completion of the ten (10) hours, which otherwise must be completed by attendance at conferences or courses sponsored or approved by the Judicial Commissioners Association of Tennessee.

(3) All judicial commissioners must complete, as part of the twelve (12) required hours, the following classes:

(A) At least two (2) hours concerning domestic violence or child abuse;

(B) At least one (1) hour concerning bail and bonds; and

(C) At least one (1) hour concerning ethics.

(4) All counties for which judicial commissioners are appointed to serve pursuant to this section shall provide all necessary funding for their respective judicial commissioners to complete the continuing education required by this subsection.

(5) All records indicating satisfaction of the continuing education requirements for judicial commissioners shall be maintained by each county and kept on the file for at least seven (7) years.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.