SENATE BILL 7007 By White

HOUSE BILL 7072

By Sexton

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8; Title 16 and Title 18, relative to court systems.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE: SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 3, Part 8, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

16-3-822.

(a) The administrative office of the courts (AOC) is directed to define and develop a centralized system of case management, document management, electronic case filing, electronic payment methods, data reporting, and any other capability deemed necessary for collection and reporting of all state and local court public case level data. The system may consist of software solutions capable of integrating with existing state and local systems to report case dispositions, statistics, and other related data with the goal that information in such system should be easily reportable, retrievable, accessible, and uniform and consistent throughout the state. The development of the centralized system must include projections for ongoing costs and maintenance of such a system.

(b) Beginning on January 31, 2024, and every six (6) months thereafter until initial implementation of the system, the AOC shall submit a written update as to the progress of the development, including projections for ongoing costs and maintenance of such a system to the speakers and chief clerks of each house of the general assembly; the governor; the chairs of the finance, ways and means committees of the house of representatives and senate; the chair of the civil justice committee of the house of representatives; the chair of the judiciary committee of the senate; and the office of legislative budget analysis.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 18-1-105(d), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

(d)

(1) It is also the duty of the clerk of each of the courts to install and maintain the court information system as provided by the administrative office of the courts (AOC) that will collect and report electronically all data required under Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 11, § II, or otherwise statutorily mandated; and the AOC shall provide for the necessary data transfers with other state agencies as defined by the AOC or as statutorily required.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary and until the AOC has completed the development of the system described in § 16-3-822, court clerk offices shall maintain existing court information computer systems and report electronically all data required under Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 11, § II, or otherwise statutorily mandated.

(3) The AOC shall provide each court clerk with a list of the data that is required under Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 11, § II or state law. The AOC and court clerks shall coordinate efforts to ensure that the court clerks submit the required data pursuant to procedures established by the AOC.

(4) When the AOC has completed the development of the system described in § 16-3-822, the system must be made available to all offices of court clerks, including those offices previously automated and those offices within Shelby, Davidson, Knox, and Hamilton counties, and those offices shall adopt and convert to the new system on a schedule to be determined in consultation with the AOC.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.