

SENATE BILL 282

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-5-201, relative to the court of the judiciary.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-5-201, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) There is created a court that shall be known and designated as the Tennessee court of the judiciary, referred to in this part as "the court." Effective midnight June 30, 2011, the entire membership of the court of the judiciary shall be vacated and shall be replaced by new appointments made to the court of the judiciary pursuant to this section. It shall consist of sixteen (16) members as follows:

(1) Any combination of six (6) judges from the court of appeals, court of criminal appeals, and trial judges to be appointed by the supreme court of Tennessee;

(2) Four (4) public members who are not judges, retired judges, nor licensed attorneys of the state, to be appointed by the governor;

(3) Three (3) public members who are not judges, retired judges, nor licensed attorneys of the state, to be appointed by the speaker of the senate;

(4) Three (3) public members who are not judges, retired judges, nor licensed attorneys of the state, to be appointed by the speaker of the house.

The terms of office of such members shall begin July 1, 2011.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-5-201, is amended in subsection (c) by deleting the language "three (3)."

SECTION 3. For purposes of making new appointments to the court of the judiciary, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.