

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1435

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Albo

**3. Committee:** House Committee on Rules

**4. Title:** Judges; senior judge system; study.

**5. Summary:** Requires a study by an independent entity on the feasibility of implementing a senior judge system.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 40

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (see Item 8)

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	\$70,000	N/A	General Fund

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES) to contract with an appropriate, independent entity, such as the National Center for State Courts, to study the feasibility and effect of implementing a senior judge system for the circuit and district courts of the Commonwealth. Such a system would utilize a specified number of retired circuit and district judges as “senior judges” to sit for a specified amount of time each year in return for a portion of the current compensation of active judges, eliminating the need for substitute judges in district court and special justices, who hear civil involuntary commitment proceedings, and reducing significantly the reliance on recalled retired judges.

The estimated cost to contract with such an entity to study the feasibility and effect of implementing a senior judge system for the circuit and district courts of the Commonwealth is \$70,000.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Courts

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None

**Date:** January 17, 2013

**Document:** G:\FY 2013 FIS\HB1435 - Senior Judge System Study.Doc