



ENACTMENT NEWS

House Bill 518 Courts, judgeships, and court jurisdiction Effective September 22, 2022

On June 24, 2022, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 518 (Rep. Hoops) into law. As introduced, the bill established the Fulton County Municipal Court, but was amended in the Senate to include a number of other changes pertaining to court jurisdictions and creating and eliminating certain courts and judgeships. The bill takes effect on September 22, 2022.

As enrolled, the bill makes the following changes:

- Creates the **Fulton County Municipal Court** beginning January 1, 2024 with one full-time judge to be elected in 2023, and abolishes the Fulton County Court and its two part-time judges
- Makes it permissive, rather than mandatory, for the presiding judge of the **Hamilton County Municipal Court**, to assign judges to sit in two locations outside the city of Cincinnati
- Gives the Housing Division of the **Toledo Municipal Court** jurisdiction over appeals of administrative orders pertaining to building, housing, air pollution, sanitation, health, fire, zoning, or safety code regulations, and gives the court concurrent jurisdiction with the common pleas court over criminal actions pertaining to air, ground, or water pollution
- Adds a second full-time judge to the **Fairborn Municipal Court**, to be elected in 2023
- Eliminates the **East Liverpool Municipal Court**, with that court's jurisdiction to be absorbed into the Columbiana County Municipal Court
- Expands the jurisdiction of the **Portage County Common Pleas – Domestic Relations Division** to include all cases involving paternity and parentage law, child support, and parenting time/visitation, and removes those cases from the jurisdiction of the court's Juvenile Division

The Ohio House of Representatives passed the bill by a vote of 96-0 on March 9, 2022. The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 32-0 on June 1, 2022. The House voted to concur with the Senate's amendments on June 1, 2022 by a vote of 82-7.