



OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

REVISED MINUTES OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE COMMITTEE FOR THE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2013

Call to Order:

Vice-chair Patrick Fischer called the meeting of the Judicial Branch and Administration of Justice Committee to order at 10:28 a.m.

Members Present:

A quorum was present with Vice-chair Fischer and committee members French, Kurfess, Mulvihill, Murray, Obhof, Saphire, and Skindell in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the July 11, 2013 meeting of the committee were reviewed and approved.

Presentations and Discussion:

Vice-chair Fischer recognized Steven C. Hollon, administrative director of the Ohio Supreme Court, who presented on Article IV relating to the courts.

Committee member Richard Saphire asked Mr. Hollon how many people enter the mentor program for professionalism, per Mr. Hollon's presentation. Mr. Hollon advised around fifty to sixty percent of attorneys enter the program.

Committee member Dennis Mulvihill asked if there is anything the court finds unmanageable or confusing about Article IV, Sections 1 through 5, that the Commission could make easier for the Supreme Court. Mr. Hollon advised there is not anything he could comment on that would need to be changed.

Mr. Saphire asked if there is a selection process for the mentors in the program referenced in the presentation. Mr. Hollon answered that there is a selection process involved.

Mr. Sapphire asked if there is any reason why Mr. Hollon thought clarity could come from a change in Ohio's constitution.

Vice-chair Fischer asked Mr. Hollon if the Court had any idea of what the Commission could improve in the constitution. Mr. Hollon responded to his inquiry.

Mr. Mulvihill asked if the Supreme Court has any interest in splitting the docket into separate criminal and civil dockets in order to streamline the civil process. Mr. Hollon responded to his inquiry.

Representative Dennis Murray asked if the Court has formulated a position about whether the ideas from the 1970s Constitutional Revision Commission regarding Article IV, Sections 1 through 5 should be recommended by this Commission.

Senator Mike Skindell advised that the General Assembly passed legislation regarding the unauthorized practice of law relating to what is and is not authorized. He said, if the General Assembly is going to go further with this topic, he suggested the Supreme Court provide advice.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Approval:

The minutes of the August 8, 2013 meeting of the Judicial Branch and Administration of Justice Committee were approved at the September 12, 2013 meeting of the committee.

/s/ Janet Gilligan Abaray
Janet Gilligan Abaray, Chair

/s/ Patrick F. Fischer
Justice Patrick F. Fischer, Vice-chair