

HB 788 -- APPOINTMENTS IN JUVENILE COURT

SPONSOR: Pouche

Currently, a juvenile officer and other necessary juvenile court personnel are appointed by the court or the family court administrator to serve under the direction of the court. In each judicial circuit, a grievance review committee is appointed to serve as the final administrative authority of a grievance regarding personnel policy or action that negatively affects an employee of the family court or juvenile court.

This bill allows the governing body of any county to, by order and with the consent of the county's prosecuting attorney, transfer the appointing authority to the prosecuting attorney. In that case, the juvenile officer, deputy juvenile officer, and other necessary personnel will be considered at-will employees of the prosecuting attorney and the grievance review committee will not be the final administrative authority for personnel policy or action grievances and the statute describing qualifications for a juvenile officer will not apply. The prosecuting attorney will assume all nonjudicial duties related to the juvenile officer, deputy juvenile officer, and other necessary personnel, and the prosecuting attorney will have full administrative control and discretion regarding the juvenile officer, deputy juvenile officer, and other necessary personnel.