

HB 1014 -- Medical Malpractice Court

Sponsor: Hughes

Beginning January 1, 2012, this bill requires the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court or his or her designee to establish a five-year pilot project to implement a medical malpractice court in Missouri and to study its effectiveness and feasibility on a statewide basis. One circuit will be selected to implement the project, and one judge in that circuit who has a medical background must be designated as the judge of that medical malpractice court. All medical malpractice cases in that circuit and any other civil cases with extensive medical evidence must be assigned to that judge. The chief justice or his or her designee must submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by February 1, 2018, on the effectiveness of the court and the feasibility of expanding it statewide. The bill specifies the information the report must contain.

The bill also removes a provision regarding the limit on the amount of noneconomic damages a plaintiff can recover in an action against a health care provider for personal injury or death due to the rendering of or the failure to render health care services.