

HJR 34 -- Judicial Retention Process

Sponsor: Hunter

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment repeals judicial retention elections by voters. Instead of voter retention, the General Assembly will have the power to vote on the retention of state judges. The judiciary committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate must hold public hearings and submit its recommendation to each respective chamber. The committees may consider recommendations made by the Missouri Bar as to the fitness of a judicial candidate. Retention of a judge occurs only with a majority vote of the members of each chamber. At any time, the Governor may request the removal of any judge in the state. After the gubernatorial request, the removal will occur upon a two-thirds vote of the members of each chamber.