

HB 821 -- County Courts in First Classification Counties

Sponsor: Cooper

This bill allows first classification counties to establish county courts, by ordinance or charter, to hear and determine cases involving county ordinance violations. All costs for the county courts will be paid by the county, and the courts will be divisions of the circuit court of the circuit in which the county is located. The bill specifies the requirements for the appointment of judges and clerks, the administration of fines and costs, and the selection of courtrooms. Procedures for the disqualification of judges, the duties of judges during proceedings, the rights of defendants during proceedings, and probation procedures for offenders in county courts are also specified.