WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

TILL IN SO P 4: 56

OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 573

BY SENATORS TRUMP AND WELD

[Passed March 11, 2022; in effect 90 days from passage]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact §50-1-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requesting the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals develop a rule creating a system in which magistrates may be assigned on a temporary rotating basis outside the county of their election or appointment to preside over initial appearances, petitions for domestic violence, emergency protective orders, emergency mental hygiene petitions, emergency juvenile delinquency petitions, and applications for issuance of search warrants in counties in which he or she was not elected or appointed during non-court hours; granting the court authority to organize the system on a circuit-wide or regional basis as the court chooses; clarifying that magistrates may preside remotely if the Supreme Court of Appeals determines it appropriate; and eliminating antiquated language.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1. COURTS AND OFFICERS.

§50-1-13. Temporary service within or outside of county.

- (a) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals or judge of the circuit court of the county in which a magistrate is elected, or the chief judge thereof if there is more than one judge of the circuit court, may order a magistrate to serve temporarily at locations within the county other than at the regular office or offices of the magistrate.
- (b) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals or judge of the circuit court of the county in which a magistrate is elected, or the chief judge thereof if there is more than one judge of the circuit court, may by order direct a magistrate to serve temporarily in any other county within the judicial circuit for any purposes directed by the judge. The magistrate's authority, to the extent ordered by the judge, shall be equal to the jurisdiction and authority of a magistrate elected in the county to which the magistrate is ordered to serve. The temporary assignment may not exceed 60 days in length in any given calendar year, except with the consent of the transferred magistrate.

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(c) A magistrate serving outside the county in which he or she is elected or appointed shall
be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in service outside of the county, as provided by
rule of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

- (d) The Supreme Court of Appeals is requested to develop a rule creating a system in which magistrates shall, on a periodic alternating basis, be assigned to preside over initial appearances, petitions for domestic violence, emergency protective orders, emergency mental health petitions, emergency juvenile delinquency petitions, and applications for the issuance of search warrants arising outside normal court hours on a circuit-wide or other regional basis as determined by the Supreme Court of Appeals. The authority of that magistrate shall be equal to the jurisdiction and authority of a magistrate elected or appointed in any county in which he or she is directed to preside.
- (e) Nothing in this section should be construed to prohibit proceedings authorized by subsection (d) of this section being held remotely if that is determined appropriate by the Supreme Court of Appeals.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.		
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Day of March	, 2022.	
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PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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