## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## HB 2712

## **Relating to the Judicial Department**

To:Ways and Means Full CommitteeFrom:Public Safety SubcommitteeCarrier:Representative Evans

HB 2712 includes changes to judicial accountability and compensation.

The measure allows the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to exercise the existing authority to promote judicial accountability and fair and accessible justice services. This includes the ability to establish judicial education requirements, establish an ombudsman's office within the office of the State Court Administrator to receive and respond to comments and concerns regarding court experiences, and to set rules and standards governing concerns raised regarding judicial performance.

The measure also provides two increases to the salaries of judgeships in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Court, and circuit courts. Judicial salaries will increase by ten percent beginning July 1, 2025, with a second increase of ten percent to begin on July 1, 2027.

The amendment appropriates \$13.2 million General Fund and authorizes the establishment of six positions.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends HB 2712 be amended by the –A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.