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Rep. Lembke Proposes Updates To Missouri Court Plan

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Rep. Jim Lembke has filed with the Missouri House of Representatives a resolution that, if passed, would update the Missouri plan for appointing judges.

The revisions would put Missouri in step with the majority of other states that have moved away from lawyers and judges controlling judicial selection.

Under the terms of Lembke's proposal, a commission comprised of 10 persons with an equal, bi-partisan split would review applicants and provide the governor with five merit-based, qualified candidates. The governor's nominee would then be subject to Senate confirmation.

"This provision is based on independent empirical scholarship findings that bi-partisan commissions are three times less likely to consider politics when making appointments than under Missouri's current plan," said Lembke.

For more details, e-mail Lembke at Jim.Lembke@house.mo.gov or call 573-751-2315.