



January 1, 2008

Nation

Observers Watch Missouri Judge Selection Process

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Weekend Edition Sunday, October 21, 2007 · Missouri's system for choosing judges has been so popular that more than 30 states have adopted the "Missouri Plan." It's a process that uses a non-partisan commission to choose three finalists for a vacancy. Then the governor chooses from among the finalists. Voters participate in a retention vote one year into the judge's term. Some special interest groups say the system lacks accountability and needs to be changed. Political observers from outside Missouri are watching closely to see what will happen in the state that developed the blueprint that so many other states use to choose judges.

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