



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

REP. JIMMIE WILSON

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

10:30 AM

Room 307, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Judiciary was called to order by the Chair, Representative Wilson.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Wilson, Weiss, Brixie, Mentzer, Morgan, Lightner, Cavitt, and Schuette.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Weiss moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on April 19, 2023. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Elizabeth T. Clement, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of the FY 2024-25 Judiciary budget request. In addition, she discussed judiciary's focus on fiscal responsibility, the importance of court technology, and outreach projects that build trust in the judiciary. Highlights of recent progress resulting from technology projects include improved service to the public, increased public access, and improved court efficiency through e-filing and document management, criminal record expungement, juvenile data management system, and effectiveness of virtual courtrooms. Budget proposals for FY 2025 include an increase in funding for the statewide case management system, funding to provide security for judges statewide, funding for judicial salary adjustments, and funding for additional staff support. The Chief Justice discussed outreach initiatives that build trust in the judiciary including Adoption Day, Reunification Day, Court Community Connections, and Child Protective Legal Representation. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

Chief Judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals, Michael Gadola, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of the Court of Appeals and the FY 2025 budget request. He discussed the Court's caseload and how the Court of Appeals is the last word on many cases. He also discussed the Court of Claims and its caseload. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

Public testimony was received from Cynthia Mifsud and Jody White. Lori Luoma also submitted a testimony card but chose not to testify.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

Representative Jimmie Wilson, Chair

Robin Risko
Committee Clerk

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