



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

REP. SARAH L. LIGHTNER

CHAIR

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

12:00 PM

Room 308, House Office Building

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

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Lightner, Yaroch, Green, Borton, C.A. Johnson, T. Carter, and Brabec.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Borton moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 8, 2022. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Lynn Helland, Judicial Tenure Commission Executive Director and General Counsel, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of the FY 2022-23 budget request for the Judicial Tenure Commission (JTC). Mr. Helland expressed apologies on behalf of Judge Jon Hulsing, JTC Vice-Chairperson, for Mr. Hulsing's inability to be present at the meeting because of a court scheduling conflict. Mr. Helland provided a brief history of the JTC's funding levels, staffing levels, and complaint and investigation caseload. He discussed the dramatic increase in the number of full investigations required over the past 5 years and a corresponding increase in the complexity of cases. Mr. Helland emphasized the need for adequate staff to enable the JTC to eliminate case backlog in order to investigate judicial misconduct and hold judges accountable in a timelier fashion. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

Bruce A. Timmons submitted written testimony to members and others in attendance, but was not able to present his testimony due to an unexpected scheduling conflict. He supports a budget increase for the JTC.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Lightner adjourned the subcommittee meeting at 12:15 PM.

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Representative Sarah Lightner, Chair

Robin Risko  
Committee Clerk

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