

**COURT SYSTEM TASK FORCE**

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jeremy A. Peterson**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates the Court System Task Force, composed of 15 members, and specifies study issues.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Court System Task Force, composed of 15 members;
- ▶ requires the task force to study issues regarding the structure, jurisdiction, and organization of the court system in Utah; and
- ▶ requires that the task force provide the Judiciary Interim Committee with a report of the task force's recommendations by November 30, 2015.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2013-14:

- ▶ to the Senate, as a one-time appropriation:
  - from the General Fund, \$9,240, to pay for the Court System Task Force; and
- ▶ to the House of Representatives, as a one-time appropriation:
  - from the General Fund, \$18,480, to pay for the Court System Task Force.

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill is repealed on December 1, 2015.

**Uncodified Material Affected:**

ENACTS UNCODIFIED MATERIAL



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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

**Section 1. Court System Task Force -- Creation -- Membership -- Quorum --  
Compensation -- Staff.**

(1) There is created the Court System Task Force consisting of the following 15  
members:

- (a) two members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate;
  - (b) four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the  
House of Representatives;
  - (c) the chief justice of the Utah Supreme Court, or the chief justice's designee;
  - (d) the Utah attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;
  - (e) the executive director of the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice;
  - (f) the director of the Utah Prosecution Council, or the director's designee;
  - (g) a representative from the League of Cities and Towns;
  - (h) a member of the Utah Association of Counties;
  - (i) a member of the Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers appointed by the  
board of directors;
  - (j) one member of the Utah State Bar who does not practice in the areas of criminal  
prosecution or defense, appointed by the director; and
  - (k) a member of the public with knowledge of and interest in the courts, jointly  
appointed by the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (2) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed  
under Subsection (1)(a) as a cochair of the task force.
- (b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House  
of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(b) as a cochair of the task force.
- (3) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum. The action of a  
majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the task force.
- (4) (a) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force who are legislators shall  
be paid in accordance with Section [36-2-2](#) and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3,  
Legislator Compensation.
- (b) A member of the task force who is not a legislator may not receive compensation

59 for the member's work associated with the task force, but may receive per diem and  
60 reimbursement for travel expenses incurred as a member of the task force at the rates  
61 established by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

62 (5) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support  
63 to the task force.

64 Section 2. **Duties -- Interim report.**

65 (1) The task force shall study the following issues:

- 66 (a) the structure of the current court system, including justice courts;
- 67 (b) whether adding specialized divisions would enhance the efficiency of the system;
- 68 (c) court commissioners;
- 69 (d) the jurisdictional limits of the different levels of courts;
- 70 (e) options for promoting other avenues of dispute resolution; and
- 71 (f) any other issue relating to court organization and efficiency.

72 (2) A final report, including any proposed legislation, shall be presented to the  
73 Judiciary Interim Committee before November 30, 2015.

74 Section 3. **Appropriation.**

75 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for  
76 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following sums of money  
77 are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts  
78 previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated for the fiscal year beginning  
79 July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. These are additions to any amounts previously  
80 appropriated for fiscal year 2015.

81 To Legislature - Senate

82 From General Fund, one-time \$9,240

83 Schedule of Programs:

84 Administration \$9,240

85 To Legislature - House of Representatives

86 From General Fund, one-time \$18,480

87 Schedule of Programs:

88 Administration \$18,480

89 Section 4. **Repeal date.**

90            This bill is repealed on December 1, 2015.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-6-14 12:09 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**