

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 35

2 INTRODUCED BY F. NAVE

3 BY REQUEST OF THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOCATING THE JUDICIAL STANDARDS COMMISSION TO
6 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES; AMENDING SECTION 3-1-1101,
7 MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 **Section 1.** Section 3-1-1101, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"3-1-1101. Creation and composition of commission -- allocation.** (1) There is created a judicial
13 standards commission consisting of five members as follows:

14 (a) two district court judges appointed by the speaker of the house as provided in 3-1-1115 and
15 confirmed by the senate;

16 (b) one attorney who has practiced law in this state for at least 10 years, appointed by the attorney
17 general and confirmed by the senate; and

18 (c) two citizens who are not attorneys or judges of any court, active or retired, appointed by the
19 governor and confirmed by the senate.

20 (2) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms.

21 (3) The judicial standards commission is allocated to the department of justice for administrative
22 purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121. However, the commission may hire its own personnel, and 2-15-
23 121(2)(d) does not apply.

24 (4) The judicial standards commission shall exercise its functions independently of the department
25 and without approval or control of the department."

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

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