BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.J.R. 54 By: Lindsay Jurisprudence 4/10/2003 As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of judicial misconduct. The present eleven members consist of five judges representing all levels of the judiciary, except constitutional county judges, four public members, and two attorneys. As proposed, S.J.R. 54 proposes a constitutional amendment to include a constitutional county court judge on the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subsection (2), Section 1-a, Article V, Texas Constitution, to increase the number of members on the State Commission on Judicial Conduct from eleven to twelve. Includes a constitutional county court judge as the additional member. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Requires this constitutional amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2003. Requires the ballot be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to include a constitutional county judge on the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct."