

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 3747
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	10980
Author:	Rep. Lowe, Jason
Date:	3/16/2022
Impact:	Creates felony

Research Analysis

The CS to HB 3747 creates the Judge Timothy Henderson Act. The measure provides that it is unlawful for a judge in any court to engage in a sexual relationship with a lawyer who is representing a client in a civil or criminal action or proceeding or prosecuting a criminal case on behalf of the state or municipality in a pending case before the same judge. The penalty is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$100,000 or both fine and imprisonment.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

The committee substitute to the measure would prohibit sexual relationships between judges and any lawyer who is representing a client in criminal or civil actions or prosecuting a criminal case on behalf of the state or a municipality. The penalty for engaging in such a relationship is a felony, punishable by a term of imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections or a fine or both imprisonment and a fine.

Upon review, passage of the measure may have a fiscal impact. The measure creates a new felony. By doing so, the measure may increase the incarceration costs borne by the Department of Corrections. The measure may also increase fine revenue received by the state. The exact impact of the measure depends on the number and disposition of cases.

Prepared By: Clayton Mayfield

Other Considerations

None.