**** BILL NO. ****

INTRODUCED BY ****

BY REQUEST OF THE ****

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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