

ASSEMBLY, No. 552

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT AUTH

District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Provides parties offering public remarks before Senate committees concerning qualifications of Superior Court judge nominees, upon motion, change of venue on family actions, to vicinage other than vicinage where nominee is assigned if confirmed.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

(2) The court reviewing the party's motion for a change of venue shall consider the interests of the moving party as well as the interests of all other parties from the previously instituted family action or proceeding when ordering the new venue.

2. This act shall take effect immediately, and apply to any party offering oral remarks at a public meeting of any committee of the Senate reviewing a nomination to be a judge of the Superior Court occurring on or after the effective date.

41 This bill concerns the public's participation with the Senate's
42 review of gubernatorial nominees to be judges of the Superior
43 Court. Specifically, the bill would provide a party to a previously
44 instituted family action or proceeding, who presents public remarks
45 before any Senate committee reviewing a Superior Court judicial
46 nomination or re-nomination concerning the character or
47 qualifications of the nominee, the ability to receive a change of

1 venue on further family matters arising out of or otherwise related
2 to the previously instituted action or proceeding.

3 The change of venue would be made by motion of the party to
4 the same court in which the party's previously instituted family
5 action or proceeding was last adjudicated or awaiting further
6 consideration. The venue change granted by the court would be to
7 another vicinage, other than the vicinage to which the nominee is
8 assigned if confirmed with the advice and consent of the Senate.
9 The court would consider the interests of the moving party as well
10 as the interests of all other parties from the previously instituted
11 family action or proceeding in the selection of the new venue.

12 The bill incorporates the court rule standard for permitting a
13 venue change based on "substantial doubt that a fair and impartial"
14 proceeding can be had in a current venue, due to the party's public
15 remarks directed at the judicial nominee, as the justification for
16 granting the moving party's request for the change of venue. See R.
17 4:3-3(a).