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S.B. 378
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Hoagland

Lisa Sandberg, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Includes Cross Creek Township as one of the locations where the Jefferson County County Court holds court.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

County courts – background

In each county in Ohio, in which the territorial jurisdiction of a municipal court or municipal courts is not coextensive with the boundaries of the county, there is a county court. The county court has jurisdiction throughout a county court district that consists of all territory within the county not subject to the territorial jurisdiction of any municipal court. County courts are courts of record for all purposes of law.¹

County court divisions – Jefferson County

Under existing law, generally speaking, in counties having more than one county court judge, the presiding judge of the county court may divide the county court district into areas of separate jurisdiction and may designate the location at which each judge holds court. Except in county court districts with a population exceeding 120,000, each area of separate jurisdiction is made up of one or more townships. In assigning areas of separate jurisdiction, the presiding judge makes each area of separate jurisdiction as equal in population and case load to others in the district as is possible under existing conditions.²

Under existing law, the presiding judge of the Jefferson County County Court determines areas of separate jurisdiction for the judges of the Jefferson County County Court in

¹ R.C. 1907.01, not in the bill.

² R.C. 1907.15(A)(1).

the manner described in the previous paragraph but subject to the provisions governing the location in which each judge holds court. The judge of the Jefferson County County Court whose term commences January 1, 1993, and that judge’s successors, must hold court in Wintersville. The judge of the Jefferson County County Court whose term commences January 1, 1995, and that judge’s successors, must hold court in Dillonvale. The judge of the Jefferson County County Court whose term commences January 2, 1995, and that judge’s successors, must hold court in Toronto. Under the bill, the judge whose term commences January 1, 1993, and that judge’s successors, must hold court in Wintersville or Cross Creek Township.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-10-20

S0378-I-133/ec

³ R.C. 1907.15(A)(2).