



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

OFF-HOUR ARRAIGNMENTS

House Bill 4249

Sponsor: Rep. Perry Bullard

Committee: Judiciary

Complete to 5-31-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4249 AS INTRODUCED 2-12-91

The bill would amend the Revised Judicature Act to allow the chief judges of the various district courts within a county to jointly designate a location where a judge or magistrate may conduct arraignments or perform other duties outside of normal court hours for the various districts involved. If the chief judges are unable to agree, the chief judge of the local circuit could decide. A magistrate's off-hours arraignments and other duties would be performed under a written multiple district plan that would be subject to the approval of the state court administrator. Any judge who was to act outside of his or her district under a multiple district plan would have to be assigned by the supreme court to act as a judge for the district or districts designated by the plan. The plan could authorize an already-appointed magistrate to serve anywhere in the multiple district area. The chief district judges, acting jointly, could appoint a magistrate for the multiple district area under procedures paralleling those for existing appointments; the appointment would be subject to the approval of the local district control units.

The bill also would similarly provide for off-hours arraignments in multicounty districts. In multicounty districts, the chief judge of the district would designate the location and develop the plan.

MCL 600.8251 et al.