

**CRAWFORD, KALKASKA COUNTIES:  
ADD DISTRICT COURT POWERS,  
JURISDICTION TO PROBATE COURT**

**House Bill 4866**  
**Sponsor: Rep Allen Lowe**

**Committee: Judiciary**  
**Complete to 10-16-97**

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4866 AS INTRODUCED 6-4-97**

Without changing the number of judges involved, the bill would amend the Revised Judicature Act to reorganize the 83rd and 87th district courts and to add the powers and jurisdiction of the district court to the probate courts in Crawford and Kalkaska counties. The part-time probate judges in these counties would receive the salary of a full-time probate judge.

More specifically, the bill would do the following:

\*\* Currently, the 83rd district consists of Roscommon and Crawford counties, with one district judge. If both counties approved, the 83rd district would consist only of Roscommon County, while the probate judge in Crawford County would take over the powers and jurisdiction of the district court for that county.

\*\* Currently, the 87th district consists of the three counties of Kalkaska, Antrim, and Otsego, with two district judges. If all three counties approved, the 87th district would consist of Antrim and Otsego counties only, while the Kalkaska County probate judge assumed the powers and jurisdiction of the district court for that county.

\*\* The bill would give full-time salaries to probate judges whose court had combined its jurisdiction as described in the bill. That is, the current part-time probate judges in Crawford and Kalkaska counties would be paid full-time probate judges' salaries if they took over the powers and jurisdiction of the district court in their counties.

\*\* The county boards of commissions of the counties involved in the districts affected by the proposed changes would have to file their resolutions approving these proposed changes with the state court administrator by April 14, 1998, for the bill to take effect January 1, 1998.

MCL 600.821, 600.822, 600.8148, and 600.8152

Analyst: S. Ekstrom

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.