H.B. 261  
133rd General Assembly

**Bill Analysis**

**Version:** As Introduced  
**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Brown

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**SUMMARY**

- Specifies that the domestic relations judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas to be elected in 2020, will take office on January 3, 2021, instead of January 2, 2021.

**DETAILED ANALYSIS**

**Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations judgeship**

Under current law, the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas has 24 judges. The 24th judge is to be elected in 2020, term to begin January 2, 2021. That judge is to be elected and designated as one of the judges of the Division of Domestic Relations of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas.

The bill changes the commencement of the term of the above domestic relations judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, to be elected in 2020, from January 2, 2021, to January 3, 2021. That judgeship was created by Am. H.B. 174 of the 132nd General Assembly, effective December 22, 2017. The commencement of the term of that judge under H.B. 174, which is January 2, 2021, would be the same as the commencement of the term of the judge first elected in 1996, and to be elected again in 2020, term to begin January 2, 2021. To avoid having two judgeships with the same term commencement date, the bill resolves that conflict.

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1 R.C. 2301.02(C).  
2 R.C. 2301.03(A).
by changing the commencement of the term of the domestic relations judgeship created by H.B. 174 from January 2, 2021, to January 3, 2021.  

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3 R.C. 2301.02(C) and 2301.03(A). Note that the commencement date is used to determine which judgeship an individual is pursuing and thus, having two judgeships with the same commencement date would tend to complicate the petition process.