



SPONSOR: Rep. Lynn & Sen. Paradee

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 214

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 RELATING TO FAMILY COURT COMMISSIONERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend Title 10 by making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline  
2 as follows:

3 CHAPTER 9. The Family Court of the State of Delaware

4 Subchapter I. Organization, Administration and Operation

5 § 915. Commissioners; appointment; duties; review.

6 (a) The Governor shall appoint, with the consent of a majority of all members elected to the Senate, suitable  
7 persons to act as Commissioners of the Family Court, all of whom shall hold office for a term of 4 years and shall be  
8 residents of the State for at least 5 years immediately preceding their appointment. Upon second and subsequent  
9 appointments and confirmations, a Commissioner of the Family Court shall hold office for a term of 6 years. An incumbent  
10 Commissioner and/or Master of the Family Court may be appointed as a Commissioner, so long as the person is duly  
11 admitted to practice before the highest court of any State of the United States. Other appointees shall be duly admitted to  
12 practice law before the Supreme Court of this State.

13 (b) The number of Commissioners appointed shall not be less than ~~5, with at least 1 Commissioner assigned to~~  
14 ~~each county.~~ 7, with at least 2 Commissioners assigned to Kent County and at least 2 Commissioners assigned to Sussex  
15 County. All newly appointed Commissioners and all reappointed commissioners, on application for nomination by the  
16 Governor, shall reside in the county for which they seek appointment.

17 (c) The salaries of such Commissioners shall be part of the annual budget of the Family Court and shall reflect the  
18 educational background and experience of the appointees.

19 Section 2. This Act takes effect on July 1, 2024.

SYNOPSIS

This Act increases the number of statewide Family Court Commissioners from 5 to 7 with at least 2 of the Commissioners being assigned to Kent County and 2 of the Commissioners being assigned to Sussex County. This Act also requires all newly appointed Commissioners and reappointed Commissioners, upon application for nomination by the Governor, to reside in the county where they seek to be appointed. This Act will take effect on July 1, 2024.