**Bill Summary** 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 118
Version:	INT
Request No.	729
Author:	Sen. Howard
Date:	12/26/2024

## **Bill Analysis**

SB 118 directs the Oklahoma Supreme Court to establish a Judicial Performance Evaluation Council (JPEC). The Supreme Court is directed by the measure to adopt a process to evaluate the judicial performance for all intermediate appellate judges and district court judges. JPEC shall evaluate the performance of judicial officers as well as provide such performance evaluations to the broader public using the standards adopted by the Supreme Court. JPEC shall also help judges improve their performance, promote judicial independence, and identify necessary judicial education programs. The Supreme Court shall appoint the Director of the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation (OJPE). The Director shall be authorized to hire employees as well as contract with outside vendors to assist in the administration and management of the Surveys. The Administrative Office of the Courts is directed to provide operational support to the OJPE employees. The measure directs the Supreme Court to prepare and submit an annual report on the implementation of the judicial performance evaluation program to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and Governor beginning December 31, 2026.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor