

5252

Sponsor(s): Senators McCaslin, Kline, Fairley, Hewitt, Patterson, Long, Constantine, Roach and Costa

Brief Description: Expanding venue for local courts during emergencies and when the defendant appears electronically from a location outside the district.

SB 5252 - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that, in the event of an emergency created by act of nature, civil unrest, technological failure, or other hazardous condition, temporary venue for court of limited jurisdiction matters may be had in a court district not impacted by the emergency. Such emergency venue is appropriate only for the duration of the emergency.

Provides that a criminal action commenced under a local ordinance is deemed to be properly heard by the court of original jurisdiction even though the hearing may take place by video or other electronic means as approved by the supreme court and the defendant is appearing by an electronic method from a location outside the court's geographic jurisdiction or boundaries.