

5835

Sponsor(s): Senators Roach, Horn, Winsley, Spanel, Rossi, Morton, Finkbeiner, Honeyford, Oke, Swecker, Schmidt, Zarelli, Benton, Parlette, Mulliken and McCaslin

Brief Description: Allowing judicial candidates freedom of speech.

SB 5835 - DIGEST

Finds that candidates for judicial offices do not forfeit their rights to freedom of speech when they file for election and that public confidence and trust in the judicial process would be promoted if judicial candidates were permitted to discuss and comment on issues of interest.

Finds that judicial candidates can discuss and comment on issues of interest without committing or appearing to commit the candidate with respect to cases, controversies, or issues likely to come before the court, and that they must be allowed to do so.

Finds that the people have a right to know the opinions and potential biases of candidates for judicial office.