

**602.6307 Appointment of district associate judge in lieu of full-time associate juvenile judge.**

1. The chief judge of a judicial district may designate by order of substitution that a district associate judge be appointed pursuant to this section in lieu of a full-time associate juvenile judge appointed under section 602.7103B, subject to the following limitations:

a. An existing full-time juvenile court judgeship has become vacant or is anticipated to become vacant within one hundred twenty days of an order of substitution.

b. The supreme court approves the substitution upon a determination that the substitution will provide a more timely and efficient performance of judicial business within that judicial election district without diminishing the efficiency and performance of the juvenile court.

2. If a district associate judge is substituted for a full-time associate juvenile judge pursuant to this section, the judicial district shall make every effort to grant the juvenile court docket priority over other dockets including granting the highest scheduling priority to juvenile court proceedings involving child custody, termination of parental rights, and child in need of assistance cases.

3. If the chief judge determines the substitution order is no longer desirable, then the order shall be terminated. However, a reversion pursuant to this subsection, irrespective of cause, shall not take effect until the substitute district associate judge fails to be retained in office at a judicial election or otherwise leaves office, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, and the office becomes vacant.

2006 Acts, ch 1060, §3