

House Study Bill 596 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE
ON JUDICIARY BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON SWAIM)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to conducting court hearings by video
- 2 conference.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 602.4201, subsection 1, Code Supplement
2 2009, is amended to read as follows:

3 1. The supreme court may prescribe all rules of pleading,
4 practice, evidence, and procedure, and the forms of process,
5 writs, and notices, for all proceedings in all courts of
6 this state, for the purposes of simplifying the proceedings
7 and promoting the speedy determination of litigation upon
8 its merits. The supreme court may also prescribe rules
9 allowing judicial officers, at the discretion of the judicial
10 officer, to conduct hearings using video conferencing to meet
11 statutory in-person requirements. The rules prescribing video
12 conferencing shall allow a party to make an application to the
13 court requesting the hearing be in the presence of the judicial
14 officer.

15 EXPLANATION

16 This bill relates to conducting court hearings by video
17 conference.

18 Under the bill, the supreme court may prescribe rules
19 allowing a judicial officer, at the discretion of such officer,
20 to conduct hearings using video conferencing to meet statutory
21 in-person requirements. If a judicial officer orders a hearing
22 by video conferencing, the rules shall allow a party to make an
23 application requesting the hearing be in the presence of the
24 judicial officer.