Office of Program Research

Judiciary Committee

HB 2473

Title: An act relating to possession of weapons in courthouse buildings.

Brief Description: Restricting possession of weapons in courthouse buildings.

Sponsors: Representatives Clibborn, Woods, Lantz, Jarrett, Darneille, Bailey, Hunt, Lovick, Shabro, Kenney, Chase, Tom and Schual-Berke.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Prohibits a law enforcement officer from possessing a firearm or other weapon in court when the officer is a party to a court proceeding involving harassment or domestic violence.

Hearing Date: 1/22/04

Staff: Bill Perry (786-7123).

Background:

Weapons, including firearms, are generally prohibited in courtrooms and other court facilities. However, exceptions are provided for military and security personnel while they are engaged in official duties and for law enforcement personnel.

Summary of Bill:

A law enforcement officer is prohibited from possessing a weapon in a court facility if the officer is present at the facility as a party to an action involving harassment or domestic violence.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.