

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:

House File 2516 (Formerly HSB 589)

Committee:

Judiciary

Floor Manager: Rep. Westrich Date:

March 24, 2022

Staff:

Amanda Wille (1-5230)

House Committee:

House Floor:

Senate Floor:

Governor:

PASSED on January 26 (21-0)

Public Defender- Wrongful Convictions

HF 2516 allows two public defenders in postconviction instances when one is from the wrongful conviction's division of the public defender's office

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1- Costs-Compensation and Fees-Indigent Defense- Appointment of Counsel by Court (815.10) Under current law an indigent person is entitled to one attorney in all cases unless it is a class "A" felony.

This change allows other indigent defendants to have two public defenders where one is a court appointed attorney and the other is an assistant from the state public defenders' wrongful convictions division.

Amendment Analysis

H-8126-Westrich

Allows an assistant state public defender from the wrongful conviction division to assist even if the person is represented by a private attorney.