

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill concerns criminal prosecutions in municipalities that are located in more than one county. Current law authorizes municipalities to contract for law enforcement services from other political subdivisions. When it comes time to prosecute a crime committed in a municipality that rests in multiple counties, the municipality is required by the rules of criminal procedure to charge the offense in the county where the offense occurred. Prosecuting offenses in multiple county seats can cause great expense and inconvenience to multi-county municipalities. The bill seeks to address this issue by clarifying that when a municipality has a presence in multiple counties and contracts with another municipality or county for law enforcement services, the criminal charges can be brought in any of the counties where the contracting municipality is located.