



AG opines effect of expired judge selection law

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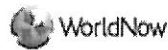
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Tennessee Attorney General Bob Cooper says there could not be an election for appellate judges in either 2010 or 2014 if Tennessee's current method for selecting appeal judges and Supreme Court justices is scrapped.

The Judicial Selection and Judicial Evaluation commissions are set to expire this year. Several Republicans asked for the opinion to find out what effect expiration of the commissions would have.

In the opinion issued Friday, Cooper says with no provision for electing judges, the incumbents would remain in office without an election.

Senate Speaker Ron Ramsey, a Blountville Republican, says he's working with the Senate Government Operations Committee to keep the commissions from expiring.

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