

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26171

This bill includes a base increase for all judicial officers of \$3,700, and restores appropriate salary differentials between judges and justices serving at different levels of the judiciary. It sets the annual salaries of justices of the Supreme Court at \$151,400, which is a 3.2% increase of their current salaries. The difference between salaries of Supreme Court justices and judges of the Court of Appeals is restored to \$10,000, resulting in a 2.7% salary increase for Court of Appeals judges. The difference between salaries of court of Appeals judges and district judges remains at \$6,000, resulting in a 2.8% increase in the salary of district judges. The difference between salaries of district judges and magistrate judges remains at \$12,000, resulting in a 3.1% increase in the current salaries of magistrate judges. The total of all increases represents a less than 3% change in overall judicial compensation.

FISCAL NOTE

The total annual fiscal impact for this increase in salary and associated benefits, which are paid from the general fund, is \$753,100.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).