

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS23095

This bill adjusts judicial salaries and increases the differences between justices and judges holding office at different levels within the judiciary. It increases pay for Magistrate judges by 2.5% from \$109,300 to \$112,000. This bill also increases the difference between the rate of pay for district judges and magistrate judges from \$5,000 to \$12,000 per year, resulting in an 8.5% increase for district judges. The seven Administrative District Judges will receive \$2,000 more than the other district judges.

Also beginning in FY 2015, the Supreme Court Justices will receive a 10.7% increase to \$135,000, with the Chief Justice receiving \$2,000 more than the other justices. The Court of Appeals judges will receive a 7.5% increase to \$130,000, with the Chief Judge receiving differential pay for the first time of \$2,000 more than what the other Court of Appeals judges are paid.

In FY 2017, the salaries for the Justices of the Supreme Court will increase by 3.7% up to \$140,000, and the Chief Justice's salary will increase by 3.6% up to \$142,000.

FISCAL NOTE

The total fiscal impact for this increase in salary and associated benefits, which are paid from the General Fund, will be \$1,157,200 for FY 2015 and FY 2016. The total fiscal impact to the General Fund for FY 2017 will be \$39,700.

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