

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS27742 / S1357

JFAC approved a Statewide Decision for CEC for FY 2021 of a 2% pay increase for permanent employees of the state. Judicial Salaries must be separately established by the Legislature and are set forth in section 59-502, Idaho Code, which also indexes such salaries to a Supreme Court Justice's salary to avoid salary compression between the four types of judgeships. To accomplish the intent of both the budget process as well as the salary statute, a 2% increase in the total judicial payroll is first calculated. This sum is divided so as to maintain the salary gaps existing under section 59-502, Idaho Code. The 2% increase is \$551,600, but the proposal is to utilize less than 2%, specifically \$536,900. When distributed to maintain the existing statutory gaps, this results in a \$2,600 salary increase per judge. This bill sets the annual salary of a justice of the Supreme Court at \$157,800, which is a 1.7% increase of their current salary. As set forth in established Idaho Code, the difference between the salary of a Supreme Court Justice and a Court of Appeals Judge remains at \$10,000 (resulting in a 1.8% salary increase for Court of Appeals Judges); the difference between the salary of a Court of Appeals Judge and a District Judge remains at \$6,000 (resulting in a 1.9% salary increase for District Judges); and, the difference between the salary of a District Judge and a Magistrate Judge remains at \$12,000 (resulting in a 2.0% salary increase for Magistrate Judges).

FISCAL NOTE

The total annual fiscal impact for this increase in salary and associated benefits, which are paid from the general fund, is \$536,900, which is a 1.8% increase in the total judicial payroll.

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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).