

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Joint Resolution 4 (The President)
(Judicial Compensation Commission)
Budget and Taxation and Judicial Proceedings

Judicial Compensation Commission Report

This joint resolution sets judicial salaries as recommended by the Judicial Compensation Commission. These salaries take effect automatically on July 1, 1996, unless they are reduced by both houses of the General Assembly by March 14, 1996.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Unless this joint resolution is amended or rejected by both houses of the General Assembly, general fund expenditures will increase by approximately \$3.4 million annually beginning in FY 1997. Future year expenditures would depend on any general State salary increases and future recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: By law the salary recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission take effect on July 1, 1996, unless reduced by the General Assembly.

The Judicial Compensation Commission recommended salary increases ranging from 3% to 10% which would increase general fund expenditures by \$3.4 million over fiscal 1996 expenditures. This estimate reflects the July 1, 1996 effective date and includes salary increases of \$2.2 million and fringe benefit increases of \$1.2 million. Exhibit 1 shows the salary increases proposed for various judgeships. If House Bill 90 or Senate Bill 90 is enacted, expenditures would increase by an additional \$26,200 for two new District Court judgeships.

Exhibit 1

<u>Judgeship</u>	<u># of Judg</u>	<u>Proposed Salary</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Total Increase</u>
Court of Appeals					
Chief	1	124,500	3,600	3.0%	3,600
Associate	6	114,500	10,400	10.0%	62,400
Court of Special Appeals					
Chief	1	109,500	9,600	9.6%	9,600
Associate	12	107,000	9,700	10.0%	116,400
Circuit Courts					
Judge	132	102,500	8,900	9.5%	1,174,800
District Court					
Chief	1	107,000	9,700	10.0%	9,700
Associate	97	95,000	8,500	9.8%	<u>824,500</u>
Subtotal: Salary increase					2,201,000
Fringe benefits (54.23% of salary)					<u>1,193,602</u>
TOTAL					\$3,394,602

Information Source(s): Judicial Compensation Commission, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 1996

rcb Revised - Updated Information - February 12, 1996

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