

Joint Resolution 2

(Senate Joint Resolution 2)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Judicial Compensation Commission – Recommendations

FOR the purpose of establishing the compensation of the members of the Judiciary in this State in accordance with Section 1–708 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

WHEREAS, Section 1–708(b)(2) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland establishes a seven–member Judicial Compensation Commission appointed by the Governor with two members appointed on nomination of the President of the Senate, two members appointed on nomination of the Speaker of the House of Delegates, one member appointed on nomination of the Maryland State Bar Association, and two members appointed at large. The Judicial Compensation Commission is constituted as follows: appointments made on the nomination of the President of the Senate: Meghan Casey and Carlos Williams; appointments made on the nomination of the Speaker of the House of Delegates: Victoria Fretwell and John Wasilisin; appointment made on the nomination of the Maryland State Bar Association: Raphael Santini; and appointments at large: Monica Mitchell and Chanel Mason. The Commission members elected Meghan Casey to serve as the chair of the Commission. The Commission is charged with reviewing the salaries and pensions of the judges of the Judiciary of Maryland and making written recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or after September 1, 2011, September 1, 2013, and every 4 years thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Section 1–708(d) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides as follows: the General Assembly may amend this Joint Resolution to decrease any of the Commission’s salary recommendations, but no reduction may diminish the salary of a judge during the judge’s continuance in office. The General Assembly may not amend this Joint Resolution to increase these recommended salaries. Should the General Assembly not adopt or amend this Joint Resolution within 50 days after its introduction, the salaries recommended herein shall apply during fiscal years 2027 through 2030. Should the General Assembly reject any or all of the salaries herein recommended, the salaries of the judges so affected shall remain unchanged during fiscal years 2027 through 2030 unless modified under other provisions of the law; and

WHEREAS, The Judicial Compensation Commission met twice in December 2025 and once in January 2026 and considered many aspects and facets of judicial compensation. The Commission, by a vote of five or more of its members as required by § 1–708(b)(7) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, has recommended an increase in judicial salaries for fiscal years 2027 through 2030; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That after

considering the recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission, beginning July 1, 2026, judicial salaries shall be as follows:

Position	Current Salary	Proposed Salary
Supreme Court of Maryland		
Chief Justice	255,433	261,333
Justice	236,433	242,333
Appellate Court of Maryland		
Chief Judge	226,633	232,533
Judge	223,633	229,533
Circuit Courts		
Judge	214,433	220,333
District Court		
Chief Judge	223,633	229,533
Associate Judge	201,333	207,233;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That beginning July 1, 2027, judicial salaries shall be as follows:

Position	Proposed Salary
Supreme Court of Maryland	
Chief Justice	267,233
Justice	248,233
Appellate Court of Maryland	
Chief Judge	238,433
Judge	235,433
Circuit Courts	
Judge	226,233
District Court	
Chief Judge	235,433
Associate Judge	213,133;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That beginning July 1, 2028, judicial salaries shall be as follows:

Position	Proposed Salary
Supreme Court of Maryland	
Chief Justice	273,133
Justice	254,133
Appellate Court of Maryland	
Chief Judge	244,333

Judge	241,333
Circuit Courts	
Judge	232,133
District Court	
Chief Judge	241,333
Associate Judge	219,033;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That beginning July 1, 2029, judicial salaries shall be as follows:

Position	Proposed Salary
Supreme Court of Maryland	
Chief Justice	279,033
Justice	260,033
Appellate Court of Maryland	
Chief Judge	250,233
Judge	247,233
Circuit Courts	
Judge	238,033
District Court	
Chief Judge	247,233
Associate Judge	224,933;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That for fiscal years 2027 through 2030, the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court of Maryland and a judge who serves as an administrative judge for a circuit court or District Court shall receive, in addition to the judge's annual salary, an annual stipend of \$7,500; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Governor of Maryland; the President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Enacted under § 1-708 of the Courts Article, March 13, 2026.