

# HOUSE BILL 608

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6lr2396  
CF SB 313

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By: **The Speaker (By Request – Judicial Compensation Commission)**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Courts – Administrative Judges – Annual Stipend~~  
3 Judicial and Quasi-Judicial Employees – Compensation

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court of Maryland and a  
5 judge who serves as an administrative judge for a circuit court or the District Court  
6 to receive an annual stipend in addition to the judge's annual salary; altering the  
7 compensation of the Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission to be at  
8 least equal to the salary of the Chief Judge of the District Court; and generally  
9 relating to the compensation of ~~administrative judges~~ certain judicial and  
10 quasi-judicial employees.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
13 Section 1–702  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
17 Article – Labor and Employment  
18 Section 9–101(a) and (d)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2025 Replacement Volume)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
22 Article – Labor and Employment

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Section 9–304(b)  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2025 Replacement Volume)

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
5 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

6 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

7 1–702.

8 (a) (1) Subject to the provisions of § 1–701 of this subtitle, a justice or judge  
9 shall have the salary provided in the State budget.

10 (2) **THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND**  
11 **AND A JUDGE WHO SERVES AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FOR A CIRCUIT COURT**  
12 **OR THE DISTRICT COURT MAY RECEIVE AN ANNUAL STIPEND IN ADDITION TO THE**  
13 **JUDGE’S ANNUAL SALARY.**

14 (b) The Chief Judge of the District Court, during the period ~~he~~ **THE INDIVIDUAL**  
15 serves as Chief Judge, shall have a salary equivalent to the annual salary then payable to  
16 an associate judge of the Appellate Court of Maryland.

17 **Article – Labor and Employment**

18 9–101.

19 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

20 (d) “Commission” means the State Workers’ Compensation Commission.

21 9–304.

22 (b) (1) Each member of the Commission is entitled to:

23 (i) the salary provided in the State budget; and

24 (ii) reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel  
25 Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

26 (2) The annual salary of a member of the Commission:

27 (i) shall at least equal the salary provided in the State budget for a  
28 judge of the district court; and

1                   (ii) for the Chairman, shall [be at least \$1,500 more than the salary  
2 of the other members] **AT LEAST EQUAL THE SALARY OF THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE**  
3 **DISTRICT COURT.**

4                   (3) Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, a  
5 member of the Commission may not receive a fee or perquisite for the discharge of any duty  
6 of office.

7                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
8 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.