

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

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By: The President (By Request – Judicial Compensation Commission)

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

### 3 **Judicial Compensation Commission – Recommendations**

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

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

22 WHEREAS, Section 1–708(d) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland provides as follows: the General Assembly may amend this  
24 Joint Resolution to decrease any of the Commission’s salary recommendations, but no  
25 reduction may diminish the salary of a judge during the judge’s continuance in office. The  
26 General Assembly may not amend this Joint Resolution to increase these recommended  
27 salaries. Should the General Assembly not adopt or amend this Joint Resolution within 50  
28 days after its introduction, the salaries recommended herein shall apply during fiscal years  
29 2027 through 2030. Should the General Assembly reject any or all of the salaries herein  
30 recommended, the salaries of the judges so affected shall remain unchanged during fiscal  
31 years 2027 through 2030 unless modified under other provisions of the law; and



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

7        RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That after  
 8 considering the recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission, beginning  
 9 July 1, 2026, judicial salaries shall be as follows:

10	Position	Current Salary	Proposed Salary
11	Supreme Court of Maryland		
12	Chief Justice	255,433	261,333
13	Justice	236,433	242,333
14	Appellate Court of Maryland		
15	Chief Judge	226,633	232,533
16	Judge	223,633	229,533
17	Circuit Courts		
18	Judge	214,433	220,333
19	District Court		
20	Chief Judge	223,633	229,533
21	Associate Judge	201,333	207,233;

22 and be it further

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

24	Position	Proposed Salary
25	Supreme Court of Maryland	
26	Chief Justice	267,233
27	Justice	248,233
28	Appellate Court of Maryland	
29	Chief Judge	238,433
30	Judge	235,433
31	Circuit Courts	
32	Judge	226,233
33	District Court	
34	Chief Judge	235,433
35	Associate Judge	213,133;

36 and be it further

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

1	Position	Proposed Salary
2	Supreme Court of Maryland	
3	Chief Justice	273,133
4	Justice	254,133
5	Appellate Court of Maryland	
6	Chief Judge	244,333
7	Judge	241,333
8	Circuit Courts	
9	Judge	232,133
10	District Court	
11	Chief Judge	241,333
12	Associate Judge	219,033;

13 and be it further

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

15	Position	Proposed Salary
16	Supreme Court of Maryland	
17	Chief Justice	279,033
18	Justice	260,033
19	Appellate Court of Maryland	
20	Chief Judge	250,233
21	Judge	247,233
22	Circuit Courts	
23	Judge	238,033
24	District Court	
25	Chief Judge	247,233
26	Associate Judge	224,933;

27 and be it further

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

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