

**SB 988 DOCO Council ORPHAN JUDGE TESTIMONY.pdf**

Uploaded by: Adelaide Eckardt

Position: FAV

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY**

**COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
P.O. BOX 26  
CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND 21613  
PHONE: (410) 228-1700  
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**JAY L. NEWCOMB, PRESIDENT  
LIBBY HANDLEY NAGEL, VICE PRESIDENT  
WILLIAM V. NICHOLS  
GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR.  
RICKY C. TRAVERS**



**DONNA F. LANE  
ACTING COUNTY MANAGER  
E. THOMAS MERRYWEATHER  
COUNTY ATTORNEY**

March 14, 2022

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Senator  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 988 Entitled "Dorchester County-Orphans Court-Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges"**

Dear Senator Smith, Chair and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for Senate Bill 988 entitled "Dorchester County-Orphans Court-Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges" which will amend Section 2-108 (k) of the Estates and Trusts Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland entitled "Dorchester County" to increase the Dorchester County Orphans Court Judge's salary and their expense allowance.

Due to an increased workload the County Council wishes to raise Orphan's Court Judge's salary from \$4,700, which was set in 2006, to \$6,000. There are now numerous hearings held almost every week. The County Council also wishes to increase the Judges' annual allowance from \$800 to \$1,000 annually since costs have risen substantially since 2006.

The County Council respectfully asks that you look favorably upon Senate Bill 988. Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. Please contact the Council's Office at (410) 228-1700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL**

Jay L. Newcomb,  
President

jln/dl

cc: The Honorable Adelaide Eckardt, Senator  
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate  
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate  
The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Delegate

**SB 988 DORCHESTER COUNTY SENATOR LETTER.pdf**

Uploaded by: Adelaide Eckardt

Position: FAV

**ADDIE C. ECKARDT**  
*Legislative District 37*  
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot  
and Wicomico Counties



*Annapolis Office*  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 322  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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Budget and Taxation Committee

Health and Human Services  
Subcommittee

*Joint Committees*  
Administrative, Executive,  
and Legislative Review

Audit

Children, Youth, and Families

Fair Practices and  
State Personnel Oversight

Pensions

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

*District Office*  
601 Locust Street, Suite 202  
Cambridge, MD 21613  
410-221-6561

Chairman William C. Smith, Jr.  
2 East, Judicial Proceedings  
Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Chairman Smith and Honorable Members of the Committee,

As the sole Senator of Dorchester County, I am writing in support of **Senate Bill 988** **Dorchester County - Orphans' Court - Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges**. This legislation was requested by the Dorchester County Council, and would increase the annual salary of an orphans' court judge for Dorchester County to a minimum of \$6,000 and the annual expense allowance for each judge to a minimum of \$1,000.

This legislation is in response to an increased workload that the judges in Dorchester County are currently facing, with numerous hearings being held every week.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Addie C. Eckardt".

Senator Addie C. Eckardt

**SB 988 Eckardt DORCHESTER ORPHAN JUDGE TESTIMONY.**

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**ADDIE C. ECKARDT**

*Legislative District 37*

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**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**

**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

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Testimony for Senate Bill 988

Dorchester County - Orphans' Court - Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges

Judicial Proceedings Committee

March 16, 2022

Chairman Smith and Honorable Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present **Senate Bill 988 Dorchester County - Orphans' Court - Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges**. This bill would increase the annual salary of an orphans' court judge for Dorchester County to a minimum of \$6,000 and the annual expense allowance for each judge to a minimum of \$1,000. This increase would take effect at the beginning of the next terms of office.

This legislation was requested by the Dorchester County Council due to an increased workload that their Judges are facing, with numerous hearings being held every week.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 988.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Addie C. Eckardt".

Senator Addie C. Eckardt