



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0422/P2  
PJH&RAC:kjf:jf

DOA:.....Potts, BB0147 - Judicial compensation commission

**FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**COURTS AND PROCEDURE**

**OTHER COURTS AND PROCEDURE**

Currently, the salaries of justices of the supreme court, court of appeals judges, and circuit court judges are based on recommendations of the director of the Office of State Employment Relations and submitted for approval to the Joint Committee on Employment Relations (JCOER).

This bill creates a Judicial Compensation Commission (commission), consisting of members appointed by the supreme court, to review judicial salaries. Under the bill, no later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the commission is to submit a written report to the governor and JCOER that includes recommendations on the salaries of the justices of the supreme court, court of appeals judges, and judges of circuit court.

Under the bill, JCOER is to review the salary recommendations submitted by the commission; if JCOER approves the recommendations, the salary adjustments take effect at the time that any justice or judge takes the oath of office.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** 20.923 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.923 (2) (b) The annual salary of each state senator, and representative to the assembly, ~~justice of the supreme court, court of appeals judge and circuit judge~~ shall be reviewed and established in the same manner as provided for positions in the classified service under s. 230.12 (3). ~~The salary established for the chief justice of the supreme court shall be different than the salaries established for the associate justices of the supreme court.~~

**SECTION 2.** 20.923 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.923 (3) JUSTICES AND JUDGES. The annual salary for any supreme court justice or judge of the court of appeals or circuit court shall be ~~established under sub. (2),~~ except that any reviewed and established in the same manner as provided for positions in the classified service under s. 230.12 (3), but shall be based on recommendations submitted to the joint committee on employment relations by the judicial compensation commission under s. 757.84 (2). The compensation adjustments granted under s. 230.12 shall not become effective until such time as any justice or judge takes the oath of office.

**SECTION 3.** 757.84 of the statutes is created to read:

**757.84 Judicial compensation commission. (1) CREATION.** There is created a judicial compensation commission consisting of members appointed by the supreme court. Members of the judicial compensation commission shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred as members of the judicial compensation commission.

**(2) REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS.** Biennially, the judicial compensation commission shall review the salaries of the justices of the supreme court, court of appeals judges, and judges of circuit court. Not later than December 1 of each

even-numbered year, the judicial compensation commission shall submit a written report to the governor and the joint committee on employment relations. The report shall include recommendations on salaries of the justices of the supreme court, court of appeals judges, and judges of circuit court.

**(3) STAFF.** The director of state courts shall provide staff and support services to the judicial compensation commission.

**(END)**