JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BILL DRAFT REQUEST FOR THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Authority: NRS 218D.190

Deadline: BDRs from the Judicial Department must be submitted by the Supreme Court by no later than **September 1, 2022**.

Person Submitting Request:

John McCormick

Person to Contact for Clarification or Additional Information:

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1. **Intent of Proposed Bill or Resolution** (Describe the problem to be solved, intended effect, and/or the goal(s) of the proposed bill or resolution – may be attached as separate document):

The intent of this proposed bill is to make compensation for district judges more equitable by adjusting the salaries of the district court judges by the cumulative percentage of increases afforded the classified employees of the State between 2009, the date of the last district judge pay adjustment, and 2027. Furthermore, it creates a mechanism to adjust district judge pay by the cumulative percentage of increases every six years (judicial term of office) thereafter.

2. **If known, list any existing state law that is sought to be changed or which is affected by the measure (NRS Title(s), Chapter(s) and Section(s) affected, Statutes of Nevada Chapter(s) and Section(s) affected and/or Nevada Constitutional provision):**

Title 1, NRS 3.030

3. **Any additional information that may be helpful in drafting the bill or resolution** (May include any relevant legislative measures, cases or federal laws or other supporting materials – may be attached):

Suggested language is attached. The mechanism to increase the salaries of the district judges every term mirrors the mechanism used to increase the compensation of the constitutional officers such as the Governor (see NRS 223.050).

4. **Effective Date:**

- ☐ Default (October 1, 2023)
- ☒ July 1, 2023
- ☐ January 1, 2024
- ☐ Upon Passage and Approval
- ☐ Other

5. **Description of any known cost to the State or a local government that would result from carrying out the changes in the bill if enacted:**

The State will be required to appropriate funds to account 1490 - State Judicial Elected Officials in order to increase the compensation of district court judges beginning in 2027 and every six years thereafter.

REQUIRED PREFILING:

A bill draft requested by the Supreme Court is required to be prefiled on or before November 16, 2022. By statute, such a measure that is not prefiled on or before that date is deemed to be withdrawn. There is no authority to waive this requirement.

Please submit the completed Bill Draft Request form by mail to: Bryan Fernley, Legislative Counsel, Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701; by e-mail at Bryan.Fernley@lcb.state.nv.us; or by fax at (775) 684-6761.

Section 1. NRS 3.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.303 1. Until the first Monday in January ~~**2009**~~ ***2027***, the annual base salary of each district judge is ~~**$130,000**~~ ***$160,000***. From and after the first Monday in January ~~**2009**~~ ***2027***, the annual base salary of each district judge **[is** ~~**$160,000]**~~ ***shall be adjusted by an amount equal to the cumulative percentage increase in the salaries of the classified employees of this State during the time period beginning on January 5 of 2009 and ending on January 3 of 2027. On the first Monday of January every sixth year thereafter the annual base salary of each district judge must be adjusted by an amount equal to the cumulative percentage increase in the salaries of the classified employees of this State during the immediately preceding term of office of each district judge.***

2. If a district judge has served in his or her office for at least 4 years, the district judge is entitled to an additional salary of 2 percent of his or her annual base salary for each year of service. The additional salary must not exceed 22 percent of his or her annual base salary.

3. The annual base salaries and the additional salary for longevity must be paid in biweekly installments out of the State Judicial Elected Officials Account of the Supreme Court.

4. No salary of any district judge may be paid in advance.