

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1524

S.P. 547

March 20, 2007

An Act To Increase Judicial Salaries

(EMERGENCY)

Reported by President EDMONDS of Cumberland for the Judicial Compensation Commission pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1701.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed under Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** current salaries for members of Maine’s judiciary are among the lowest in
4 both the New England states and the nation as a whole; and

5 **Whereas,** The annual cost-of-living increases for judicial salaries required by
6 current law have not been implemented on a regular basis, thereby causing current
7 judicial salaries to lag behind intended salary levels recommended by the Judicial
8 Compensation Commission in previous reports to the Legislature dating back to 1996;
9 and

10 **Whereas,** it is the recommendation of the Judicial Compensation Commission that
11 increases in judicial salaries become effective July 1, 2007; and

12 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
13 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
14 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
15 therefore,

16 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

17 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §4, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. M, §1, is further
18 amended to read:

19 **1. Chief justice; salary.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court is entitled
20 to receive a salary, for fiscal year ~~1998-99~~ 2007-08 and thereafter, of ~~\$111,000~~ \$153,588,
21 to be paid biweekly.

22 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §4, sub-§2, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt.
23 M, §2, is amended to read:

24 A. For fiscal year ~~1998-99~~ 2007-08 and thereafter, ~~\$96,000~~ \$133,555, to be paid
25 biweekly.

26 **Sec. 3. 4 MRSA §102, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. M, §4, is
27 further amended to read:

28 **1. Chief justice; salary.** The Chief Justice of the Superior Court is entitled to
29 receive a salary, for fiscal year ~~1998-99~~ 2007-08 and thereafter, of ~~\$94,000~~ \$130,884, to
30 be paid biweekly.

31 **Sec. 4. 4 MRSA §102, sub-§2, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by PL 1997, c. 643,
32 Pt. M, §5, is amended to read:

33 A. For fiscal year ~~1998-99~~ 2007-08 and thereafter, ~~\$90,000~~ \$125,542, to be paid
34 biweekly.

35 **Sec. 5. 4 MRSA §157, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. M, §7, is
36 further amended to read:

