



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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Robert L. Genuario

Secretary

Office of Policy and Management

Testimony Supporting House Bill No. # 5036

AN ACT CONCERNING SALARIES OF JUDGES, FAMILY SUPPORT MAGISTRATES AND REFEREES

Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. #5036 An Act Concerning Salaries of Judges, Family Support Magistrates and Referees.

This bill will modify C.G.S. Section 51-47 to increase judges' salaries and C.G.S. Section 46b-231 to increase magistrates' salaries beginning on or before January 1, 2009. A superior court judge's salary will increase by 2% from a current salary of \$146,780 to \$149,716. Magistrates' salaries will increase from a current salary of \$121,615 to \$124,047.

Also, this bill will modify C.G.S. Section 52-434 to increase the compensation of judge trial referees from \$220 to \$224 per day and 46b-236 to increase family support referees from \$190 to \$194 per day.

In addition, the worker's compensation commissioners in the Workers' Compensation Commission will receive salary increases commensurate with judges. The maximum salary of the Worker's Compensation Commission chairman is equal to a superior court judge. The Worker's Compensation Commissioners earn, at maximum, \$1,000 less.

In recognition of the depth of knowledge and responsibility associated with the court process, the Governor is proposing a 2% increase for judges and magistrates effective January 1, 2009.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony. I respectfully request the Committee support this bill and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.