AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL COMPENSATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2012) (a) There is established a Commission on Judicial Compensation for the purpose of examining and making recommendations with respect to judicial compensation. The commission shall consist of nine members as follows: (1) Three appointed by the Governor; (2) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (4) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; (5) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and (6) two appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. To the extent practicable, each appointing authority shall appoint members who have experience in financial management, human resource administration or the determination of executive compensation. Each member of the commission shall serve a term of four years, and no member may be appointed to more than one four-year term, except that any member may continue to serve until such member's successor is appointed and qualified. Any vacancy on the commission shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the appointing authority having the power to make the original appointment. The commission shall elect a chairperson from among its members. A majority of the members of the commission shall
constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

(b) Not later than January 2, 2013, and every four years thereafter, the commission shall:

(1) Examine the adequacy and need for adjustment of compensation, for each of the following four fiscal years, for (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, (G) each judge of the Superior Court, (H) the judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system, (I) each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district, (J) each Superior Court judge designated as chief administrative judge, (K) the Chief Family Support Magistrate, and (L) each Family Support Magistrate; and

(2) Examine the adequacy and need for adjustment of per diem compensation, for each of the following four fiscal years, for senior judges, judge trial referees and family support referees.

(c) In conducting its examination under subsection (b) of this section, the commission shall take into account all appropriate factors including, but not limited to: (1) The overall economic climate in the state; (2) the rate of inflation; (3) the levels of compensation received by judges of other states and of the federal government; (4) the levels of compensation received by attorneys employed by government agencies, academic institutions and private and nonprofit organizations; (5) the state's interest in attracting highly qualified and experienced attorneys to serve in judicial capacities; (6) compensation adjustments applicable to employees of the state during applicable fiscal years; and (7) the state's ability to fund increases in compensation.

(d) Not later than January 2, 2013, and every four years thereafter,
the commission shall submit a report on its findings, in accordance
with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor, the General
Assembly and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
Notwithstanding sections 46b-231, 46b-236, 51-47, 51-47b and 52-434 of
the general statutes, each recommendation made in such report
regarding changes in compensation shall have the force of law and
shall become effective July first of the year in which the report was
due, unless modified or abrogated by statute or resolution prior to
May first of the year in which the report was due.

Sec. 2. Section 2-9a of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2012):

(a) (1) There is created a Compensation Commission consisting of
eleven members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Governor,
two of whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the
Senate, two of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of
Representatives, two of whom shall be appointed by the minority
leader of the Senate and two of whom shall be appointed by the
minority leader of the House of Representatives. All members of said
commission shall be appointed on or before July 1, 1971, and
quadrennially thereafter, to serve for a term of four years. No person
shall be appointed to said commission who is an official or employee
of the state of Connecticut or any department, agency or political
subdivision thereof, or who is an official or employee of any agency or
institution more than ten per cent of the gross annual income of which
is from state funds. Members shall not be compensated for their
services as such but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses
incurred in the performance of their duties. (2) On or before July 15,
1971, and biennially thereafter, the commission shall elect a chairman
from its members. A majority of the members of said commission shall
constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. Any action
taken by said commission shall be by majority vote of those present.

(b) The Compensation Commission shall recommend to the General
Assembly, on or before February fifteenth, in odd-numbered years,
legislative proposals for salary, expenses, pension, workers' compensation and any other benefits to be paid to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Comptroller [J and members of the General Assembly, [and judges of the courts of the state, except judges of probate.] In its discretion, the commission also may submit its recommendation for such legislative proposals, on or before February fifteenth in even-numbered years. The General Assembly shall take action on such proposals at the session to which they are submitted. No proposals for legislative salary, if enacted by the General Assembly, shall become effective until the first Wednesday following the first Monday of the January succeeding the next election of members of the General Assembly. No proposals for salaries shall be effective as to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Attorney General, Treasurer and Comptroller until the first Wednesday following the first Monday of the January succeeding the next election of said officers. Any other proposals of benefits, if enacted, shall be applicable with respect to the incumbents in the offices covered. Said commission may recommend different rates of salary, expenses and allowances for members of the General Assembly for session and interim periods and may recommend rates of salary, expenses and allowances for members of the General Assembly who are officers which are different from that established for other members.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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<th>Section</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 1</td>
<td>July 1, 2012</td>
<td>New section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
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<td>2-9a</td>
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**JUD** Joint Favorable Subst.

**GAE** Joint Favorable