



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 31**

February Session, 2012

\* \_\_\_\_\_SB00031GAE\_\_050212\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL  
COMPENSATION.**

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

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

21 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

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

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

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

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

52 (d) Not later than January 2, 2013, and every four years thereafter,

53 the commission shall submit a report on its findings, in accordance  
54 with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor, the General  
55 Assembly and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.  
56 Notwithstanding sections 46b-231, 46b-236, 51-47, 51-47b and 52-434 of  
57 the general statutes, each recommendation made in such report  
58 regarding changes in compensation shall have the force of law and  
59 shall become effective July first of the year in which the report was  
60 due, unless modified or abrogated by statute or resolution prior to  
61 May first of the year in which the report was due.

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

64 (a) (1) There is created a Compensation Commission consisting of  
65 eleven members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Governor,  
66 two of whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
67 Senate, two of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of  
68 Representatives, two of whom shall be appointed by the minority  
69 leader of the Senate and two of whom shall be appointed by the  
70 minority leader of the House of Representatives. All members of said  
71 commission shall be appointed on or before July 1, 1971, and  
72 quadrennially thereafter, to serve for a term of four years. No person  
73 shall be appointed to said commission who is an official or employee  
74 of the state of Connecticut or any department, agency or political  
75 subdivision thereof, or who is an official or employee of any agency or  
76 institution more than ten per cent of the gross annual income of which  
77 is from state funds. Members shall not be compensated for their  
78 services as such but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses  
79 incurred in the performance of their duties. (2) On or before July 15,  
80 1971, and biennially thereafter, the commission shall elect a chairman  
81 from its members. A majority of the members of said commission shall  
82 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. Any action  
83 taken by said commission shall be by majority vote of those present.

84 (b) The Compensation Commission shall recommend to the General  
85 Assembly, on or before February fifteenth, in odd-numbered years,

86 legislative proposals for salary, expenses, pension, workers'  
 87 compensation and any other benefits to be paid to the Governor,  
 88 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Attorney General,  
 89 Treasurer, Comptroller [,] and members of the General Assembly. [and  
 90 judges of the courts of the state, except judges of probate.] In its  
 91 discretion, the commission also may submit its recommendation for  
 92 such legislative proposals, on or before February fifteenth in even-  
 93 numbered years. The General Assembly shall take action on such  
 94 proposals at the session to which they are submitted. No proposals for  
 95 legislative salary, if enacted by the General Assembly, shall become  
 96 effective until the first Wednesday following the first Monday of the  
 97 January succeeding the next election of members of the General  
 98 Assembly. No proposals for salaries shall be effective as to the  
 99 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Attorney  
 100 General, Treasurer and Comptroller until the first Wednesday  
 101 following the first Monday of the January succeeding the next election  
 102 of said officers. Any other proposals of benefits, if enacted, shall be  
 103 applicable with respect to the incumbents in the offices covered. Said  
 104 commission may recommend different rates of salary, expenses and  
 105 allowances for members of the General Assembly for session and  
 106 interim periods and may recommend rates of salary, expenses and  
 107 allowances for members of the General Assembly who are officers  
 108 which are different from that established for other members.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2012	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2012	2-9a

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*