

**Unofficial Draft Copy**

As of: June 18, 2008 (10:46am)

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\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the Law and Justice Interim Committee

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act revising salaries for supreme court justices and district court judges; and amending sections 2-16-403 and 3-5-211, MCA."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

**Section 1.** Section 2-16-403, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-16-403. Salaries of supreme court justices.** ~~Prior to June 30~~ After July 1 of each even-numbered year, the department of administration shall conduct a salary survey of justices and chief justices of the highest appellate courts similar to the Montana supreme court for the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Idaho, and Colorado. ~~The department shall include the salary for a Montana supreme court justice or the chief justice in determining the average salary for a justice and the average salary for the chief justice.~~ If the average salaries are greater than the salaries for a supreme court justice or the chief justice in Montana, then beginning July 1 of the year following the year in which the survey is conducted, the average salaries are the new salaries for a supreme court justice or the chief justice. A justice's salary or the chief justice's salary may not be reduced."

{Internal References to 2-16-403:

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x3-2-104

x19-5-101}

**Section 2.** Section 3-5-211, MCA, is amended to read:

**"3-5-211. Salaries and expenses of district court judges.**

(1) ~~Prior to June 30~~ After July 1 of each even-numbered year, the department of administration shall conduct a salary survey of judges of courts of general jurisdiction similar to the Montana district courts for the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, ~~and Idaho,~~ and Colorado. ~~The department shall include the salary for a Montana district court judge in determining the average salary.~~ If the average salary is greater than the salary for a district court judge in Montana, then beginning July 1 of the year following the year in which the survey is conducted, the average salary is the new salary for that position. A district court judge's salary may not be reduced.

(2) Actual and necessary expenses for each district court judge are the travel expenses, as defined and provided in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503, incurred in the performance of the district court judge's official duties."

{Internal References to 3-5-211:

x3-7-222

x3-10-207

x7-4-2502

x19-5-101}

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