

A Bill for an Act Relating to Salaries.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to provide for the independence of the judiciary as a separate branch of government by allowing the chief justice to determine the salaries of certain judiciary administrative officers based upon merit and other relevant factors.

SECTION 2. Section 601-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§601-3 Administrative director. (a) The chief justice, with the approval of the supreme court, shall appoint an administrative director of the courts to assist the chief justice in directing the administration of the judiciary. The administrative director shall be a resident of the State for a continuous period of three years prior to the administrative director’s appointment, and shall be appointed without regard to chapters 76 and 77 and shall serve at the pleasure of the chief justice. The administrative director shall hold no other office or employment. [Effective January 1, 1989, the administrative director shall receive a salary of \$81,629 a year. Effective January 1, 1990, the administrative director shall receive a salary of \$85,302 a year.] Effective July 1, 2000, the salary of the administrative director shall be no greater than provided in section 26-54 and shall be determined by the chief justice based upon merit and other relevant factors.

(b) The administrative director shall, subject to the direction of the chief justice, perform the following functions:

- (1) Examine the administrative methods of the courts and make recommendations to the chief justice for their improvement;
- (2) Examine the state of the dockets of the courts, secure information as to their needs of assistance, if any, prepare statistical data and reports of the business of the courts and advise the chief justice to the end that proper action may be taken;
- (3) Examine the estimates of the courts for appropriations and present to the chief justice the administrative director’s recommendations concerning them;
- (4) Examine the statistical systems of the courts and make recommendations to the chief justice for a uniform system of judicial statistics;
- (5) Collect, analyze, and report to the chief justice statistical and other data concerning the business of the courts;
- (6) Assist the chief justice in the preparation of the budget, the six-year program and financial plan, the variance report and any other reports requested by the legislature;
- (7) Carry out all duties and responsibilities that are specified in Title 7 as it pertains to employees of the judiciary; and
- (8) Attend to such other matters as may be assigned by the chief justice.

(c) The administrative director shall, with the approval of the chief justice, appoint a deputy administrative director of the courts without regard to chapters 76 and 77 and such assistants as may be necessary. Such assistants shall be appointed without regard to chapters 76 and 77. [Effective January 1, 1989, the salary of the deputy administrative director shall be \$74,608 a year. Effective January 1, 1990, the salary of the deputy administrative director shall be \$77,966 a year.] Effective July 1, 2000, the salary of the deputy administrative director shall be no greater than

provided in section 26-52(3) and shall be determined by the chief justice based upon merit and other relevant factors. The administrative director shall be provided with necessary office facilities.

(d) The judges, clerks, officers, and employees of the courts shall comply with all requests of the administrative director for information and statistical data relating to the business of the courts and expenditure of public funds for their maintenance and operation.

(e) The salary levels of the administrative director and deputy administrative director shall be disclosed in the judiciary's annual budget submission to the legislature.'

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2000.

(Approved May 30, 2000.)