

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 237(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/17/06

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the compensation of justices and judges, and to increasing the**
2 **number of superior court judges designated for the third and fourth judicial districts;**
3 **and providing for an effective date."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 INTENT. It is the intent of the legislature that the six additional superior court judges
8 authorized for the third and fourth judicial districts by the amendment of AS 22.10.120 in sec.
9 6 of this Act be assigned to criminal matters or be used by the Alaska Court System in a
10 manner that will allow criminal matters to be more efficiently processed by the court, and be
11 assigned as follows:

- 12 (1) Anchorage, two;
13 (2) Palmer, two;
14 (3) Kenai, one; and

1 (4) Fairbanks, one.

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 22.05.140(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, the monthly base salary of the
4 chief justice is \$13,808 [\$9,203] and for each other justice, the monthly base salary is
5 \$13,767 [\$9,159].

6 * **Sec. 3.** AS 22.05.140(d) is amended to read:

7 (d) Beginning July 1, 2006 [JANUARY 1, 1991], if the monthly basic salary
8 for Step E, Range 28, of the salary schedule set out in AS 39.27.011 increases, the
9 monthly base salary of the chief justice and the other justices shall increase by the
10 same percentage. The increase takes effect when the salary increase under
11 AS 39.27.011 takes effect and may be retroactive if consistent with the change in
12 AS 39.27.011. The commissioner of administration shall, by regulation, establish the
13 percentage at which the salary is increased and the increased salary amount.

14 * **Sec. 4.** AS 22.07.090(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, the monthly base salary of a judge
16 of the court of appeals is \$13,007 [\$8,652]. The compensation of a judge may not be
17 diminished during the term of office, unless by a general law applying to all salaried
18 officers of the state.

19 * **Sec. 5.** AS 22.07.090(c) is amended to read:

20 (c) Beginning July 1, 2006 [JANUARY 1, 1991], if the monthly basic salary
21 for Step E, Range 28, of the salary schedule set out in AS 39.27.011 increases, the
22 monthly base salary of the judges of the court of appeals shall increase by the same
23 percentage. The increase takes effect when the salary increase under AS 39.27.011
24 takes effect and may be retroactive if consistent with the change to AS 39.27.011. The
25 commissioner of administration shall, by regulation, establish the percentage at which
26 the salary is increased and the increased salary amount.

27 * **Sec. 6.** AS 22.10.120 is amended to read:

28 **Sec. 22.10.120. Number of judges.** The superior court consists of 40 [34]
29 judges, five of whom shall be judges in the first judicial district, three of whom shall
30 be judges in the second judicial district, 24 [19] of whom shall be judges in the third
31 judicial district, and eight [SEVEN] of whom shall be judges in the fourth judicial

1 district. At the time of submitting the names of nominees to the governor to fill a
 2 vacancy on the superior court bench, the judicial council shall also designate the
 3 district in which the appointee is to reside and serve.

4 * **Sec. 7.** AS 22.10.190(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, the monthly base salary for each
 6 superior court judge is \$12,730 [\$8,469].

7 * **Sec. 8.** AS 22.10.190(d) is amended to read:

8 (d) Beginning July 1, 2006 [JANUARY 1, 1991], if the monthly basic salary
 9 for Step E, Range 28, of the salary schedule set out in AS 39.27.011 increases, the
 10 monthly base salary of the judges of the superior court shall increase by the same
 11 percentage. The increase takes effect when the salary increase under AS 39.27.011
 12 takes effect and may be retroactive if consistent with the change to AS 39.27.011. The
 13 commissioner of administration shall, by regulation, establish the percentage at which
 14 the salary is increased and the increased salary amount.

15 * **Sec. 9.** AS 22.15.220(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) Except as provided in (e) of this section, the monthly base salary for each
 17 district court judge is \$10,793 [\$7,179].

18 * **Sec. 10.** AS 22.15.220(e) is amended to read:

19 (e) Beginning July 1, 2006 [JANUARY 1, 1991], if the monthly basic salary
 20 for Step E, Range 28, of the salary schedule set out in AS 39.27.011 increases, the
 21 monthly base salary of the judges of the district court shall increase by the same
 22 percentage. The increase takes effect when the salary increase under AS 39.27.011
 23 takes effect and may be retroactive if consistent with the change to AS 39.27.011. The
 24 commissioner of administration shall, by regulation, establish the percentage at which
 25 the salary is increased and the increased salary amount.

26 * **Sec. 11.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska enacted in sec. 9(b), ch. 53, SLA 2005,
 27 is amended to read:

28 (b) Justices of the supreme court and [,] judges of the court of appeals and the
 29 superior and district courts [, AND MAGISTRATES] are entitled to receive salary
 30 adjustments provided for in secs. 4 and 5, ch. 53, SLA 2005 [4 - 6 OF THIS ACT], in
 31 accordance with AS 22.05.140(d), AS 22.07.090(c), AS 22.10.190(d), and

1 **AS 22.15.220(e)** [AS 22.15.220(b) AND (e)]. **Magistrates are entitled to receive**
2 **salary adjustments provided for in secs. 4 - 6, ch. 53, SLA 2005, in accordance**
3 **with AS 22.15.220(b) and (e).**

4 * **Sec. 12.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2006.