

SENATE, No. 4686

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator BRIAN P. STACK
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for annual adjustments to compensation for certain justices and judges based on change in CPI.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning cost of living adjustments for certain justices
2 and judges and amending N.J.S.2B:2-4.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. N.J.S.2B:2-4 is amended to read as follows:

8 2B:2-4. Judicial Salaries.

9 Annual salaries of justices and judges beginning on January 1,
10 2024 and thereafter shall be:

11 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court \$234,191.95

12 Associate Justice of the Supreme Court \$226,292.11

13 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court,

14 Appellate Division \$218,545.82

15 Judge of the Superior Court,

16 Appellate Division \$215,545.82

17 Judge of the Superior Court,

18 Assignment Judge \$211,437.65

19 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court;

20 Presiding Judge of the Tax Court \$207,166.50

21 Judge of the Superior Court;

22 Judge of the Tax Court \$204,166.50

23 Beginning on January 1, 2025, and on January 1 of each year
24 **【for two years】** thereafter, the amount of the annual salary
25 determined for the prior calendar year shall be adjusted annually by
26 the State Treasurer in direct proportion to the percent change in the
27 Consumer Price Index over a 12-month period beginning November
28 1 and ending October 31. For the purpose of this section,
29 "Consumer Price Index" means the Consumer Price Index for All
30 Urban Consumers, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island
31 Metropolitan Area, All Items (1982-84=100), as published by the
32 Bureau of Labor Statistics in the United States Department of
33 Labor. The State Treasurer shall determine the amount of the
34 adjustment by December 1 of each year and the adjustment shall
35 become effective for payments to be made during the calendar year
36 following the determination, beginning with payments made on or
37 after January 1 of each calendar year. An adjustment in the annual
38 payment shall be made only if the percent change in the Consumer
39 Price Index for the period specified is greater than zero. Such an
40 annual adjustment shall in no event be greater than 2 percent. If the
41 reference base of the index is changed, the index used to determine
42 the Consumer Price Index shall be the index converted to the new
43 base by standard statistical methods. The first adjustment
44 determination shall be made by December 1, 2024 and applicable to
45 payments commencing on January 1, 2025. **【The final adjustment**

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 shall be made on December 1, 2026 and be applicable for payments
2 commencing on January 1, 2027. No further adjustments shall be
3 made thereafter.】

4 (cf: P.L.2024, c.56, s.2)

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6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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11 Under current law, the amount of the annual salary for Superior
12 Court judges and justices of the State Supreme Court is determined
13 the prior calendar year and adjusted annually by the State Treasurer
14 in direct proportion to the percent change in the Consumer Price
15 Index (CPI). An adjustment is made only if the percent change in
16 the CPI for the period specified is greater than zero and at no time
17 is the annual adjustment greater than two percent.

18 This bill permits future adjustments based upon the CPI to
19 continue by eliminating the provision of existing law prohibiting
20 further adjustments after December 1, 2026, with payments
21 commencing January 1, 2027. The removal of this provision
22 provides for future scheduled adjustments to the compensation of
23 Superior Court judges and justices of the State Supreme Court
24 based upon the CPI as determined by the State Treasurer.