

Senate File 2134 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2134
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3023)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the salary of the state court administrator.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 602.1502, subsection 1, Code 2022, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. a. The supreme court shall set the compensation of the
4 state court administrator. The state court administrator shall
5 not receive any other remuneration from the state or from any
6 other source for the performance of that person's duties unless
7 the additional remuneration is first approved by the governor
8 or authorized by law. However, this provision does not exclude
9 the reimbursement for necessary travel and expenses incurred in
10 the performance of duties or fringe benefits normally provided
11 to employees of the state.

12 b. The salaries of other employees of the judicial branch
13 shall be set pursuant to the judicial branch's pay plan
14 established under [section 602.1401](#).

15 Sec. 2. 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1191, section 14, subsection
16 7, as amended by 2010 Iowa Acts, chapter 1193, section 26, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 7. The following are range 7 positions: administrator
19 of the public broadcasting division of the department of
20 education, director of the department of corrections, director
21 of the department of education, director of human services,
22 director of the department of economic development, executive
23 director of the Iowa telecommunications and technology
24 commission, executive director of the state board of regents,
25 director of transportation, director of the department of
26 workforce development, director of revenue, director of
27 public health, ~~state court administrator~~, director of the
28 department of management, chief information officer, state debt
29 coordinator, and director of the department of administrative
30 services.

31 Sec. 3. 2010 Iowa Acts, chapter 1193, section 17, subsection
32 1, is amended to read as follows:

33 1. The governor shall establish a salary for appointed
34 nonelected persons in the executive branch of state government
35 holding a position enumerated in and within the salary

1 ranges provided in 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1191, section 14,
2 by considering, among other items, the experience of the
3 individual in the position, changes in the duties of the
4 position, the incumbent's performance of assigned duties, and
5 subordinates' salaries. However, the attorney general shall
6 establish the salary for the consumer advocate, ~~the chief~~
7 ~~justice of the supreme court shall establish the salary for the~~
8 ~~state court administrator,~~ the ethics and campaign disclosure
9 board shall establish the salary of the executive director, and
10 the Iowa public broadcasting board shall establish the salary
11 of the administrator of the public broadcasting division of the
12 department of education, each within the salary range provided
13 in 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1191, section 14.

14 EXPLANATION

15 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 Code section 602.1502(1) requires the supreme court to set
18 the compensation of the state court administrator. However,
19 the general assembly periodically establishes salary ranges
20 for certain appointed state officers and authorizes a person
21 (generally the governor) to establish the salaries of those
22 state officers. The most recent salary range legislation
23 (2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1191) designates the state court
24 administrator as a "range 7" position with a salary range of
25 \$100,840 to \$154,300. The most recent legislation governing
26 who establishes the salary for appointed state officers (2010
27 Iowa Acts, chapter 1193) requires the chief justice of the
28 supreme court to establish the salary of the state court
29 administrator.

30 This bill strikes the state court administrator from the
31 list of "range 7" positions, thereby allowing the supreme
32 court to set the compensation of the state court administrator
33 without a salary range limitation, pursuant to Code section
34 602.1502(1).

35 The bill also strikes the requirement in 2010 Iowa Acts,

1 chapter 1193, that the chief justice of the supreme court
2 establish the salary of the state court administrator,
3 thereby eliminating any discrepancy between Code section
4 602.1502(1) and 2010 Iowa Acts, chapter 1193. By operation
5 of law, striking this provision also removes the state court
6 administrator from the prohibition in 2010 Iowa Acts, chapter
7 1193, section 17, subsection 3, against receiving any other
8 remuneration from the state or from any other source for the
9 performance of the state court administrator's duties unless
10 approved by the governor or authorized by law (excluding
11 reimbursement for necessary travel and expenses incurred in the
12 performance of duties or fringe benefits normally provided to
13 employees of the state). Therefore, the bill adds an identical
14 prohibition to Code section 602.1502(1) for the state court
15 administrator so that no change in the law occurs.