

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 1938

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to the method of calculating the salary of state judges.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Section 659.012(a), Government Code, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (a) Notwithstanding Section 659.011:

S.B. No. 1938

6 (4) the chief justice or presiding judge of an  
7 appellate court is entitled to an annual salary from the state that  
8 is \$2,500 more than the salary provided for the other justices or  
9 judges of the court, except that the combined salary of the chief  
10 justice of a court of appeals may not exceed the amount that is  
11 \$2,500 less than the salary provided for a justice of the supreme  
12 court.

13 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 659, Government Code, is  
14 amended by adding Section 659.0121 to read as follows:

Sec. 659.0121. DETERMINATION OF JUDICIAL SALARIES.

16 (a) The salary of a justice of the supreme court other than the  
17 chief justice or a judge of the court of criminal appeals other than  
18 the presiding judge is equal to the sum of:

1 this state.

2        (b) The Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial  
3 System shall collect and provide to the Legislative Budget Board  
4 the information described by Subsections (a)(1) and (2) not later  
5 than February 1 of each year.

6        (c) The state bar shall collect and provide to the  
7 Legislative Budget Board the information described by Subsection  
8 (a)(3) not later than February 1 of each year.

9        (d) The Legislative Budget Board shall calculate the salary  
10 under Subsection (a) using the information received under  
11 Subsections (b) and (c) and notify the comptroller of the amount not  
12 later than March 1 of each year.

13        (e) On October 1 of each year, the comptroller shall adjust  
14 all salaries paid under Section 659.012 based on the amount  
15 provided by the Legislative Budget Board under Subsection (d).

16        (f) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the salary of a justice  
17 of the supreme court other than the chief justice or a judge of the  
18 court of criminal appeals other than the presiding judge may not  
19 increase annually by more than the greater of:

20        (1) four percent; and

21        (2) the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index  
22 for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics  
23 of the United States Department of Labor, or its successor index,  
24 increased during the previous calendar year.

25        (g) The comptroller shall publish in the Texas Register, not  
26 later than May 1 of each year, a list of all salaries to be paid  
27 under Section 659.012 effective October 1.

S.B. No. 1938

1 SECTION 3. Effective August 31, 2021, Chapter [35](#),  
2 Government Code, is repealed.

3 SECTION 4. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this  
4 Act takes effect January 1, 2019.