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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

June 3, 2013

TO: Senator Dawn Hill, Senate Chair
Representative Margaret Rotundo, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Linda M. Valentino, Senate Chair *LW*
Representative Charles R. Priest, House Chair *CP*
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

Re: Judicial compensation

As you know, Maine consistently ranks near the bottom of the list of how states compensate their judges. The Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary voted to carry over LD 725, An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission, not because we do not support improving judicial compensation, but because funding sources had not been identified.

We understand that the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee is considering compensation issues concerning all State employees, whether it be reinstatement of merit increases, cost of living adjustments or other benefits or compensation that recognizes the work of public employees who have not received increases or adjustments over the course of several years. We write to ask that, as you consider compensation for State employees, that you please include the Judicial Branch, and especially the judges, in your considerations.

Please let us know if we can provide you with additional information.

Thank you.