

PROPOSAL FOR RETIREMENT SYSTEM LEGISLATION
(for the 2011 Legislative Session)

RETURN TO: Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst
Legislative Services Division
Room 110, State Capitol
PO Box 201706
Helena, Montana 59620-1706

Fax: 406-444-3036 Phone: 406-444-5367
E-mail: rweiss@mt.gov

Additional copies of this form can be found at www.leg.mt.gov/sava

PROPOSER'S NAME/TITLE: Ed McLean – District Judge

ORGANIZATION: Montana Judges Association

ADDRESS: Missoula County Courthouse
200 West Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802

PHONE: (406) 258-4771
FAX: (406) 258-3456
E-MAIL: jmclean@mt.gov

1. Which retirement systems would be covered by the legislation? If the proposal is limited to certain systems, please indicate the reason(s).

Judges Retirement System

2. What is the problem or issue?

The MJA is requesting that the retirement credit be increased from 1.785% to 3 1/3% for years 15 through 30. Currently, the judges and justices receive 3 1/3% a year for the first 15 years of service and 1.785% for each year after 15 years. This proposal would change the factor to 3 1/3% for all years of service up to, but not to exceed 30 years.

The retirement benefit would not be allowed to exceed the salary of an active judge or justice.

3. What do you want the legislation to do?

The Montana Judges Association wants to increase the retirement benefit for sitting judges or justices so there is a benefit of 3 1/3% for the first 30 years of service, not to exceed 100% of an active judge or justice.

4. If possible, please list the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) sections that would need to be amended.

§19-5-502 MCA

5. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose (i.e., an increase in employer contributions, employee contributions, both, other?)

The proposal does not require additional funding as the Judges' Retirement Plan is currently funded at 148%

6. Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been considered in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.

Similar legislation has not been requested in the past. A presentation on the present plan was made to SAVA in 2008, but Montana Judges Association did not have the legislation introduced.

7. If you are a holdover senator or legislative candidate running unopposed, do you want the Legislative Services Division to consider this a bill draft request?

Not Applicable

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY MARCH 31, 2010

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