

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Relating to the recommendations of the Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials.

WHEREAS, the voters of Missouri approved a constitutional amendment in 1994 that created a commission charged with setting the amount of compensation paid to statewide elected officials, legislators and judges; and

WHEREAS, prior to the approval of this amendment, the General Assembly had the duty and responsibility of setting salaries; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials has recommended that judges, statewide elected officials, and legislators receive the same increase in salary as the average state worker for the fiscal years beginning in July 2009 and July 2010, provided that legislators shall not receive such increases until January 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has also recommended an additional leadership differential of \$2,500 annually for the representative serving as Speaker of the House of Representatives and the senator serving as the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as well as an additional leadership differential of \$1,500 annually for the representative serving as Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives and to each senator or representative serving as the Majority or Minority Floor Leader of the Senate or the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has also recommended that each Associate Circuit Judge's salary be increased by \$1,500 each year prior to calculating any salary increase based on the increase in the average state worker's salary. Further, a leadership differential of \$2,500 annually shall be paid to the judge serving as Chief Justice. Finally, the Commission recommended that judges be provided expense reimbursement at the same rate as members of the General Assembly for up to three days attendance at the Judicial Conference of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the state has many other priorities for appropriating money in the budget that are far more important than the salary increases recommended by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the changes recommended by the Missouri Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials will take effect on July 1, 2009, unless disapproved by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly may disapprove of the recommendation by a concurrent resolution approved by both the Senate and the House before February 1, 2009:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, disapprove the recommendations of the Missouri Citizen's Commission on the Compensation for Elected Officials contained in its report dated November 26, 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor Jay Nixon.