

1-1 By: Leach (Senate Sponsor - Huffman) H.B. No. 2779  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2023;  
 1-3 May 16, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Finance;  
 1-4 May 21, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 16, Nays 0; May 21, 2023,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17			X	
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			
1-22	X			
1-23	X			
1-24	X			
1-25	X			

1-26 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2779 By: Huffman

1-27 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-28 AN ACT

1-29 relating to the compensation and retirement benefits of certain  
 1-30 elected state officials.

1-31 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-32 SECTION 1. Section 659.012(b), Government Code, is amended  
 1-33 to read as follows:

1-34 (b) A judge or justice for whom the amount of a state base  
 1-35 salary is prescribed by Subsection (a) is entitled to an annual  
 1-36 salary from the state in the amount equal to:

1-37 (1) 110 percent of the state base salary paid in  
 1-38 accordance with Subsection (a) for the judge's or justice's  
 1-39 position, beginning with the pay period that begins after the judge  
 1-40 or justice accrues four years of:

1-41 (A) contributing service credit in the Judicial  
 1-42 Retirement System of Texas Plan One or the Judicial Retirement  
 1-43 System of Texas Plan Two;

1-44 (B) service as a judge of a statutory county  
 1-45 court, multicounty statutory county court, or statutory probate  
 1-46 court; or

1-47 (C) combined contributing service credit and  
 1-48 service as provided by Paragraphs (A) and (B); ~~and~~

1-49 (2) 120 percent of the state base salary paid in  
 1-50 accordance with Subsection (a) for the judge's or justice's  
 1-51 position, beginning with the pay period that begins after the judge  
 1-52 or justice accrues eight years of:

1-53 (A) contributing service credit in the Judicial  
 1-54 Retirement System of Texas Plan One or the Judicial Retirement  
 1-55 System of Texas Plan Two;

1-56 (B) service as a judge of a statutory county  
 1-57 court, multicounty statutory county court, or statutory probate  
 1-58 court; or

1-59 (C) combined contributing service credit and  
 1-60 service as provided by Paragraphs (A) and (B); and

2-1 (3) 130 percent of the state base salary paid in  
2-2 accordance with Subsection (a) for the judge's or justice's  
2-3 position, beginning with the pay period that begins after the judge  
2-4 or justice accrues 12 years of:

2-5 (A) contributing service credit in the Judicial  
2-6 Retirement System of Texas Plan One or the Judicial Retirement  
2-7 System of Texas Plan Two;

2-8 (B) service as a judge of a statutory county  
2-9 court, multicounty statutory county court, or statutory probate  
2-10 court; or

2-11 (C) combined contributing service credit and  
2-12 service as provided by Paragraphs (A) and (B).

2-13 SECTION 2. Section 659.0445(b), Government Code, is amended  
2-14 to read as follows:

2-15 (b) The monthly amount of longevity pay under this section  
2-16 to which a judge or justice described by Subsection (a) is entitled:

2-17 (1) is equal to the product of 0.05 multiplied by the  
2-18 amount of the judge's or justice's current monthly state salary; and

2-19 (2) becomes payable beginning with the month following  
2-20 the month in which the judge or justice completes 14 [12] years of  
2-21 service for which credit is established in the applicable  
2-22 retirement system.

2-23 SECTION 3. Sections 814.103(a) and (a-1), Government Code,  
2-24 are amended to read as follows:

2-25 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1) or (b), the  
2-26 standard service retirement annuity for service credited in the  
2-27 elected class of membership is an amount equal to the number of  
2-28 years of service credit in that class, times 2.3 percent of the  
2-29 state base salary, excluding longevity pay payable under Section  
2-30 659.0445 [and as adjusted from time to time], being paid to a  
2-31 district judge as set by the General Appropriations Act in  
2-32 accordance with Section 659.012(a).

2-33 (a-1) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the standard  
2-34 service retirement annuity for service credited in the elected  
2-35 class of membership for a member of the class under Section  
2-36 812.002(a)(3) whose effective date of retirement is on or after  
2-37 September 1, 2019, is an amount equal to the number of years of  
2-38 service credit in that class, times 2.3 percent of the state salary,  
2-39 excluding longevity pay payable under Section 659.0445 [and as  
2-40 adjusted from time to time], being paid in accordance with Section  
2-41 659.012 to a district judge who has the same number of years of  
2-42 contributing service credit as the member on the member's last day  
2-43 of service as a district or criminal district attorney, as  
2-44 applicable.

2-45 SECTION 4. Section 834.102(a), Government Code, is amended  
2-46 to read as follows:

2-47 (a) The base service retirement annuity for a person whose  
2-48 effective date of retirement is:

2-49 (1) before September 1, 2019, is an amount equal to 50  
2-50 percent of the state base salary[, as adjusted from time to time,]  
2-51 being paid in accordance with Section 659.012(a) to a judge of a  
2-52 court of the same classification as the court on which the retiree  
2-53 last served before retirement; or

2-54 (2) on or after September 1, 2019, is an amount equal  
2-55 to 50 percent of the state salary[, as adjusted from time to time,]  
2-56 being paid in accordance with Section 659.012(b)(2) to a judge of a  
2-57 court of the same classification as the court on which the retiree  
2-58 last served before retirement.

2-59 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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