

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 1519

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to longevity pay for certain state judges and justices.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 659.042, Government Code, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Sec. 659.042. EXCLUSIONS. The following are not entitled
7 to longevity pay under this subchapter:

8 (1) a member of the legislature;

9 (2) an individual who holds a statewide office that is
10 normally filled by vote of the people, except as provided by Section
11 659.0445;

12 (3) an independent contractor or an employee of an
13 independent contractor;

14 (4) a temporary employee;

15 (5) an officer or employee of a public junior college;

16 (6) an academic employee of a state institution of
17 higher education; or

18 (7) a state employee who retired from state employment
19 on or after June 1, 2005, and who receives an annuity based wholly
20 or partly on service as a state officer or state employee in a
21 public retirement system, as defined by Section 802.001, that was
22 credited to the state employee.

23 SECTION 2. Section 659.044(a), Government Code, is amended
24 to read as follows:

1 (a) Except as provided by Subsections (e) and (f) and
2 Section 659.0445, the monthly amount of longevity pay is \$20 for
3 every two years of lifetime service credit.

4 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 659, Government Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 659.0445 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 659.0445. LONGEVITY PAY FOR STATE JUDGES AND JUSTICES.

7 (a) A judge or justice who receives a salary paid by the state, is a
8 member of the Judicial Retirement System of Texas Plan Two, and is
9 an active judge, as defined by Section 74.041(a), is entitled to
10 longevity pay as provided by this section.

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

13 (1) is \$50 for each year of service credited in the
14 retirement system; and

15 (2) is calculated or recalculated and becomes payable
16 beginning with the month following the month in which the judge or
17 justice completes 8, 12, and 16 years of service for which credit is
18 established in the retirement system.

19 SECTION 4. Section 814.103(a), Government Code, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the standard
22 service retirement annuity for service credited in the elected
23 class of membership is an amount equal to the number of years of
24 service credit in that class, times two percent of the state salary,
25 excluding longevity pay payable under Section 659.0445 and as
26 adjusted from time to time, being paid a district judge.

27 SECTION 5. The heading to Subchapter A, Chapter 835,

1 Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

2 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS; POWERS AND DUTIES

3 SECTION 6. Subchapter A, Chapter 835, Government Code, is
4 amended by adding Section 835.0005 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 835.0005. DEFINITION. In this subtitle, "state
6 salary" does not include the amount of any longevity pay payable
7 under Section 659.0445.

8 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.