

House Concurrent Resolution No. 6

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1045L.011

AN ACT

Relating to disapproving the recommendations of the Missouri Citizens' Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Whereas, Article XIII, Section 3 of the Missouri Constitution charges the Missouri
2 Citizens' Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials with setting the amount of
3 compensation paid to statewide elected officials, legislators, and judges; and
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Whereas, the Constitution establishes the number of commissioners at twenty-
5 two, with twelve appointed by the Governor, nine appointed by the Secretary of State, and one
6 by the Missouri Supreme Court; and
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Whereas, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan and the Missouri Supreme Court
9 made their constitutionally required appointments, but Governor Matt Blunt ignored his
10 constitutional duty and failed to make any appointments to the Commission; and
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Whereas, with a majority of the Commission positions vacant, the ten
13 commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State and the Missouri Supreme Court proceeded
14 with the task of evaluating compensation for statewide elected officials, legislators, and judges;
15 and
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Whereas, by a vote of 9-0, which was three short of the twelve votes needed for
18 a majority, the remaining commissioners voted to grant statewide elected officials, legislators,
19 and all state judges the same pay increases, if any, granted to rank-and-file state workers during
20 the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years, with associate circuit judges receiving an additional \$1,500 in
21 each of those fiscal years regardless of whether other state employees receive pay raises; and
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24 **Whereas**, the commissioners further recommended that all state judges be paid a
25 per diem for attending the annual Missouri Judicial Conference equal to the per diem paid to
26 legislators when the General Assembly is in session; and
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28 **Whereas**, the country is in the midst of a continuing economic recession that began
29 in December 2007 and that many consider to be the worst national economic crisis since the
30 Great Depression; and
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32 **Whereas**, the State of Missouri is facing a \$342 million shortfall in the fiscal year
33 2009 state budget that could require immediate cuts in state spending and government services;
34 and
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36 **Whereas**, the State of Missouri likely will also face a financial crisis during the
37 2010 fiscal year and perhaps the 2011 fiscal year; and
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39 **Whereas**, the future financial uncertainty makes providing pay increases for
40 legislators, statewide elected officials, and state judges a low budget priority; and
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42 **Whereas**, the Commission's recommendations shall take effect unless disapproved
43 by the General Assembly through a concurrent resolution passed by two-thirds majorities in each
44 legislative chamber before February 1, 2009:
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46 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the House of
47 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
48 concurring therein, that the recommendations of the Missouri Citizens' Commission on
49 Compensation of Elected Officials be disapproved; and
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51 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
52 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor
53 Jay Nixon.

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