

Special Provisions - Judiciary
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues – Senate

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1. **Exempt Positions.** Recommendations revise Section 7(d), Informational Listing – Judicial Compensation to include the statutory reference related to the compensation of professional prosecutors and to improve the text's clarity.

Government Code §659.012, Judicial Salaries, and §46.003, Compensation of State Prosecutors, establish a tiered, tenure-based compensation structure for certain judges and professional prosecutor positions that is linked to the base salary of a district judge and adjusts depending on the judge or professional prosecutor's tenure. For their first four years of service, the judge or the professional prosecutor earns a base salary that is a certain percentage of the base salary of a district judge. When their tenure is between 4-8 years of service, the judge or professional prosecutor earns 110 percent of their base salary. With 8 or more years of tenure, the judge or professional prosecutor's salary is 120 percent of their base salary.

2. **Unexpended Balance Authority.** Recommendations continue the authority for the Supreme Court of Texas, Court of Criminal Appeals, 14 Courts of Appeals, Office of Court Administration, Office of Capital and Forensic Writs, Office of the State Prosecuting Attorney, and State Commission on Judicial Conduct to carry forward any unexpended and unobligated appropriation authority remaining at the end of the first year of the biennium into the second year of the biennium. Recommendations remove all strategy-level UB designations in bill patterns for these courts and agencies and include a new Special Provisions – Judiciary rider providing the same authority in non-estimated strategies.

**Special Provisions - Judiciary
Rider Highlights - Senate**

Modification of Existing Riders

7. **Schedule of Exempt Positions.** Recommendations revise **(d) Informational Listing – Judicial Compensation** to include the statutory reference related to the compensation of professional prosecutors and to improve the text's clarity.

New Riders

9. **Unexpended Balance Authority.** Recommendations add a new rider to provide the authority to carry forward any unexpended, unobligated appropriation authority for non-estimated strategies remaining at the end of the first year of the biennium into the second year of the biennium for the courts and agencies whose unexpended balance authority is currently provided at the strategy-level in the General Appropriations Act, including the Supreme Court of Texas, Court of Criminal Appeals, 14 Courts of Appeals, Office of Court Administration, Office of Capital and Forensic Writs, Office of the State Prosecuting Attorney, and State Commission on Judicial Conduct.