

# The 14 Court of Appeals Districts Summary of Budget Recommendations - Senate

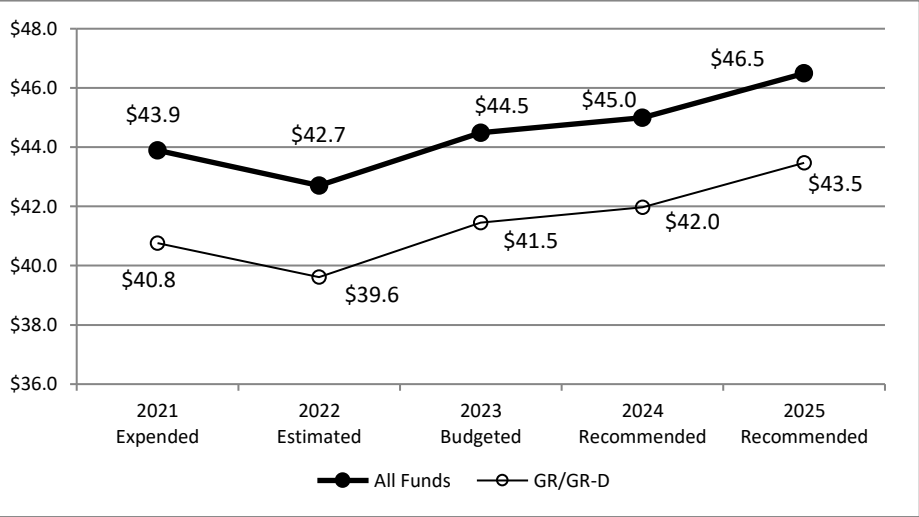
Page IV-7 through IV-22  
The Honorable Dori Contreras, Chief, Council of Chief Justices  
Bryan Hadley, LBB Analyst

Method of Financing	2022-23 Base	2024-25 Recommended	Biennial Change (\$)	Biennial Change (%)
General Revenue Funds	\$81,063,128	\$85,443,976	\$4,380,848	5.4%
GR Dedicated Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total GR-Related Funds	\$81,063,128	\$85,443,976	\$4,380,848	5.4%
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Other	\$6,129,094	\$6,039,674	(\$89,420)	(1.5%)
All Funds	\$87,192,222	\$91,483,650	\$4,291,428	4.9%
	FY 2023 Budgeted	FY 2025 Recommended	Biennial Change	Percent Change
FTEs	401.0	389.0	(12.0)	(3.0%)

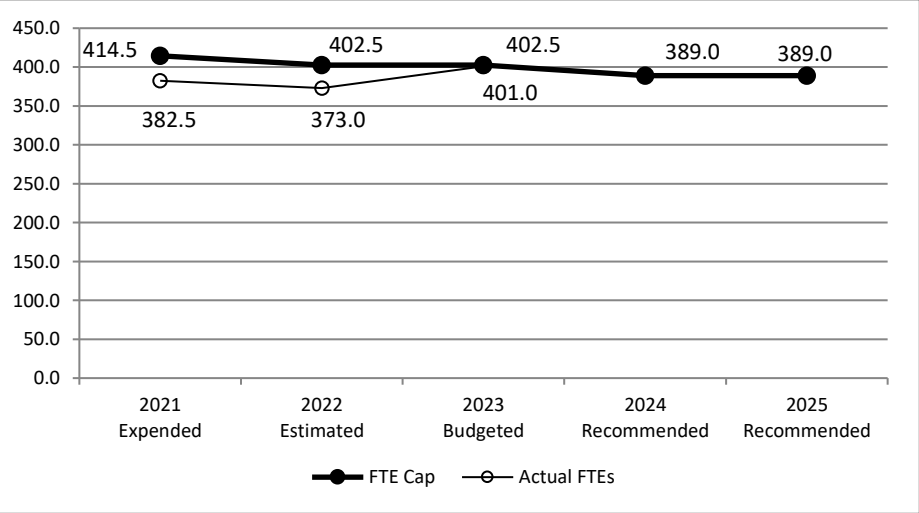
The bill pattern for these courts (2024-25 Recommended) represents the following percentages for each court's estimated total available funds.

First Court of Appeals District, Houston 92.2%	Eighth Court of Appeals District, El Paso 91.5%
Second Court of Appeals District, Fort Worth 89.8%	Ninth Court of Appeals District, Beaumont 97.6%
Third Court of Appeals District, Austin 91.0%	Tenth Court of Appeals District, Waco 93.6%
Fourth Court of Appeals District, San Antonio 90.5%	Eleventh Court of Appeals District, Eastland 95.2%
Fifth Court of Appeals District, Dallas 95.0%	Twelfth Court of Appeals District, Tyler 94.2%
Sixth Court of Appeals District, Texarkana 95.7%	Thirteenth Court of Appeals District, Corpus Christi-Edinburg 99.0%
Seventh Court of Appeals District, Amarillo 91.5%	Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston 92.5%

Historical Funding Levels (Millions)



Historical Full-Time-Equivalent Employees (FTEs)



**The 14 Court of Appeals Districts**  
**Summary of Funding Changes and Recommendations - Senate**

Funding Changes and Recommendations for the 2024-25 Biennium compared to the 2022-23 Base Spending Level (in millions)		General Revenue	GR-Dedicated	Federal Funds	Other Funds	All Funds	Strategy in Appendix A
<b><i>SIGNIFICANT Funding Changes and Recommendations (each issue is explained in Section 3 and additional details are provided in Appendix A):</i></b>							
A)	Net Increase in Strategy A.1.2, Appellate Justice Salaries, in various Court of Appeals resulting from anticipated changes in judicial tenure under the tiered, tenure-based compensation structure established by Government Code §659.012. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1).	\$0.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.2	A.1.2
<b><i>OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (these issues are not addressed in Section 3 but details are provided in Appendix A):</i></b>							
B)	Net decrease in Other Funds that includes decreases in Appropriated Receipts totaling \$24,828 due to anticipated reduction in requests for sales of copies of court opinions from the public and publishers; decreases in Interagency Contracts with the Office of Court Administration totaling \$72,130 for information technology services; and increases in Judicial Fund No. 573 totaling \$7,538 for paying judicial salaries.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	A.1.1, A.1.2
C)	Increase in Strategy B.1.1, Appellate Court Operations, in all Courts of Appeals for salary adjustments.	\$4.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4.2	B.1.1
<b>TOTAL SIGNIFICANT &amp; OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (in millions)</b>		<b>\$4.4</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>(\$0.1)</b>	<b>\$4.3</b>	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT &amp; OTHER Funding Increases</i>		\$4.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4.4	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT &amp; OTHER Funding Decreases</i>		\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	As Listed

NOTE: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

**The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - Senate**

1. **Judicial Salaries.** Recommendations provide \$28.5 million in All Funds, including \$23.7 million in estimated General Revenue funds and \$4.8 million in Judicial Fund No. 573, for judicial compensation at the 14 Courts of Appeals (COAs). This is an estimated General Revenue increase of \$230,706 above 2022-23 spending levels to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure at the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> COAs during the 2024-25 biennium. It offsets a General Revenue reduction of \$49,500 at the 9th COA for an anticipated reduction in judicial tenure.

Base salaries for the COA justices are linked to the base salary of a district judge under the tiered, tenure-based compensation structure established by Government Code §659.012. Statute sets the base salary for a justice, other than a chief justice, of the 14 Courts of Appeals at 110.0 percent of the district judge base salary (\$154,000) for the first four years of their tenure. When their tenure is between 4 and 8 years, the court of appeals justice earns 110.0 percent of their \$154,000 base salary (\$169,400). A court of appeals justice with over 8 years of tenure earns a salary that's 120.0 percent of their \$154,000 base salary (\$184,800). Justice salaries are funded through an estimated and non-transferrable strategy isolating required compensation appropriations and providing flexibility to adjust funding levels for unanticipated changes in compensation obligations resulting from tenure changes and elections or appointments of persons with years of service credits differing from the previous position holder.

2. **Appellate Court Operations.** Recommendations otherwise provide \$58.7 million in All Funds for the timely processing and disposal of appeals. The All Funds total includes \$57.6 million in General Revenue, \$0.3 million in Appropriated Receipts, and \$0.9 million in Interagency Contracts. Recommendations continue General Revenue appropriations at 2022–23 spending levels and include reductions in Appropriated Receipts and Interagency Contracts totaling \$0.1 million. Recommendations include 389.0 FTEs included in the Courts' base requests, which reflects a reduction of 12.0 FTEs compared to 2023 budgeted levels.
3. **Similar Funding for Same-Sized Courts Block Grant.** The 14 COAs have submitted a unified exceptional item request, not included in recommendations, for block grant funding called Similar Funding for Same-Sized Courts (SFSSC). The last SFSSC request made by the 14 COAs was for \$6.4 million to the Eighty-fourth Legislature in 2015. For 2024-25, the courts have requested \$13.9 million in SFSSC block grant funding, a 24.0 percent increase over 2022-23 appropriated levels excluding judicial salary costs. This also includes an additional 11.0 FTEs above 2024-25 requested staffing levels across various COAs.

The courts' request notes that core functions of the courts require a highly trained and specialized workforce whose salary classifications are outdated and not competitive with private practice and other government employment for skilled attorneys and staff. This request would split SFSSC funding among the courts to provide targeted pay increases for staff attorneys and non-legal staff and for other operating expenses. The figure on the next page shows the 2024-25 block grant request by court and spending category. (See also, Items Not Included in Recommendations #1 for all Courts of Appeals)

COA	Justices	Total SFSSC Request	Attorney Salaries	Non-attorney salaries	Employee Benefits (health and retirement contributions)	Other Operating Expenses	New FTEs
1	9	\$ 1,443,652	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 279,797	\$ 19,489	\$ 144,366	-
2	7	\$ 1,284,258	\$ 781,310	\$ 420,706	\$ 18,030	\$ 64,212	5.0*
3	6	\$ 1,224,070	\$ 848,000	\$ 357,885	\$ 18,185	\$ -	-
4	7	\$ 1,268,382	\$ 780,208	\$ 394,220	\$ 17,617	\$ 76,337	1.0
5	13	\$ 2,462,894	\$ 1,404,000	\$ 862,012	\$ 33,990	\$ 162,892	-
6	3	\$ 465,490	\$ 259,611	\$ 175,759	\$ 6,630	\$ 23,490	-
7	4	\$ 675,540	\$ 391,476	\$ 250,286	\$ 10,134	\$ 23,644	-
8	3	\$ 459,932	\$ 356,512	\$ 96,520	\$ 6,900	\$-	-
9	4	\$ 657,238	\$ 430,820	\$ 193,557	\$ 9,366	\$ 23,495	-
10	3	\$ 466,202	\$ 352,709	\$ 106,602	\$ 6,891	\$ -	2.0
11	3	\$ 426,324	\$ 264,555	\$ 155,374	\$ 6,395	\$-	-
12	3	\$ 460,858	\$ 340,495	\$ 106,642	\$ 6,809	\$ 6,912	-
13	6	\$ 1,263,572	\$ 933,464	\$ 311,155	\$ 18,953	\$ -	3.0*
14	9	\$ 1,432,048	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 268,349	\$ 19,333	\$ 144,366	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>\$ 13,990,460</b>	<b>\$ 9,143,160</b>	<b>\$ 3,978,864</b>	<b>\$ 198,722</b>	<b>\$ 669,714</b>	<b>11.0</b>

\* The numbers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> COAs represent vacant staff positions compared to 2023 reported staffing levels that the courts indicate can't be funded in the 2024-25 biennium.

4. **Unexpended Balance Authority.** Recommendations continue the Courts' Unexpended Balance authority but remove the strategy-level designation in the bill patterns and include a new Special Provisions – Judiciary rider providing the same authority for all Article IV courts and agencies.

**The 14 Court of Appeals Districts**  
**Items Not Included in Recommendations - Senate**

		2024-25 Biennial Total					
		GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs	Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2026-27
Court Exceptional Items Not Included (in agency priority order)							
First Court of Appeals District, Houston							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,443,652	\$1,443,652	0.0	No	No	\$1,443,652
Second Court of Appeals District, Fort Worth							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,284,258	\$1,284,258	5.0	No	No	\$1,284,258
Third Court of Appeals District, Austin							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,224,070	\$1,224,070	0.0	No	No	\$1,224,170
Fourth Court of Appeals District, San Antonio							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,268,382	\$1,268,382	1.0	No	No	\$1,268,382
Fifth Court of Appeals District, Dallas							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$2,462,894	\$2,462,894	0.0	No	No	\$2,462,894
Sixth Court of Appeals District, Texarkana							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$465,490	\$465,490	0.0	No	No	\$465,490
Seventh Court of Appeals District, Amarillo							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$675,540	\$675,540	0.0	No	No	\$675,540

**The 14 Court of Appeals Districts**  
**Items Not Included in Recommendations - Senate**

**Section 5**

		2024-25 Biennial Total			Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2026-27
		GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs			
<b>Eighth Court of Appeals District, El Paso</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$459,932	\$459,932	0.0	No	No	\$459,932
<b>Ninth Court of Appeals District, Beaumont</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$657,238	\$657,238	0.0	No	No	\$657,238
<b>Tenth Court of Appeals District, Waco</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$466,202	\$466,202	2.0	No	No	\$466,202
<b>Eleventh Court of Appeals District, Eastland</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$426,324	\$426,324	0.0	No	No	\$426,324
<b>Twelfth Court of Appeals District, Tyler</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$460,858	\$460,858	0.0	No	No	\$460,858
<b>Thirteenth Court of Appeals District, Corpus Christi-Edinburg</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,263,572	\$1,263,572	3.0	No	No	\$1,263,572
<b>Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston</b>							
1)	Similar Funding For Same-sized Courts	\$1,432,048	\$1,432,048	0.0	No	No	\$1,432,048
<b>TOTAL Items Not Included in Recommendations</b>		<b>\$13,990,460</b>	<b>\$13,990,460</b>	<b>11.0</b>			<b>\$13,990,560</b>

The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
Appendices - Senate

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\* Appendix is not included - no significant information to report

The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - Senate -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2022-23 Base	2024-25 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
<b>First Court of Appeals District, Houston</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$6,623,692	\$6,611,154	(\$12,538)	(0.2%)	Recommendations reflect an anticipated decrease in Appropriated Receipts.
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$3,048,993	\$3,073,014	\$24,021	0.8%	Recommendations reflect General Revenue increase to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$427,015	\$427,015	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$9,672,685	\$10,111,183	\$438,498	4.5%	
<b>Second Court of Appeals District, Fort Worth</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$5,096,480	\$5,091,480	(\$5,000)	(0.1%)	Recommendations reflect an anticipated decrease in Appropriated Receipts.
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$2,469,744	\$2,469,744	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$377,790	\$377,790	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$7,566,224	\$7,939,014	\$372,790	4.9%	
<b>Third Court of Appeals District, Austin</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$4,267,708	\$4,267,708	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$2,094,758	\$2,128,302	\$33,544	1.6%	Recommendations reflect General Revenue increase to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$327,407	\$327,407	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$6,362,466	\$6,723,417	\$360,951	5.7%	
<b>Fourth Court of Appeals District, San Antonio</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$5,030,270	\$5,030,270	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$2,564,946	\$2,564,946	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$338,860	\$338,860	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$7,595,216	\$7,934,076	\$338,860	4.5%	
<b>Fifth Court of Appeals District, Dallas</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$8,958,399	\$8,958,399	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$4,398,440	\$4,398,440	\$0	0.0%	



The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - Senate -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2022-23 Base	2024-25 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$661,562	\$661,562	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$13,356,839	\$14,018,401	\$661,562	5.0%	
<b>Sixth Court of Appeals District, Texarkana</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,373,372	\$2,372,372	(\$1,000)	(0.0%)	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,038,571	\$1,100,992	\$62,421	6.0%	Recommendations reflect increases of \$54,883 in General Revenue and \$7,538 in Judicial Fund No. 573 to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$167,209	\$167,209	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$3,411,943	\$3,640,573	\$228,630	6.7%	
<b>Seventh Court of Appeals District, Amarillo</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,880,293	\$2,880,293	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,474,288	\$1,474,288	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$184,528	\$184,528	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$4,354,581	\$4,539,109	\$184,528	4.2%	
<b>Eighth Court of Appeals District, El Paso</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,384,154	\$2,381,931	(\$2,223)	(0.1%)	Recommendations reflect an anticipated decrease in Appropriated Receipts.
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,032,624	\$1,032,624	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$194,533	\$194,533	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$3,416,778	\$3,609,088	\$192,310	5.6%	
<b>Ninth Court of Appeals District, Beaumont</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,936,414	\$2,936,414	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,458,760	\$1,409,260	(\$49,500)	(3.4%)	Recommendations reflect an anticipated decrease in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS B.1.1	\$0	\$198,598	\$198,598	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$4,395,174	\$4,544,272	\$149,098	3.4%	
<b>Tenth Court of Appeals District, Waco</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,373,659	\$2,373,659	\$0	0.0%	

**The 14 Court of Appeals Districts**  
**Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - Senate -- ALL FUNDS**

Strategy/Goal	2022-23 Base	2024-25 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,181,688	\$1,181,688	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS B.1.1	\$0	\$153,527	\$153,527	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$3,555,347	\$3,708,874	\$153,527	4.3%	
<b>Eleventh Court of Appeals District, Eastland</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,369,446	\$2,369,446	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$1,082,212	\$1,124,514	\$42,302	3.9%	Recommendations reflect General Revenue increase to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$209,986	\$209,986	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$3,451,658	\$3,703,946	\$252,288	7.3%	
<b>Twelfth Court of Appeals District, Tyler</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$2,377,004	\$2,377,004	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES A.1.2	\$1,132,100	\$1,156,481	\$24,381	2.2%	Recommendations reflect General Revenue increase to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$172,321	\$172,321	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$3,509,104	\$3,705,806	\$196,702	5.6%	
<b>Thirteenth Court of Appeals District, Corpus Christi-Edinburg</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$4,221,225	\$4,221,225	\$0	0.0%	
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$2,202,092	\$2,202,092	\$0	0.0%	
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$324,570	\$324,570	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$6,423,317	\$6,747,887	\$324,570	5.1%	
<b>Fourteenth Court of Appeals District, Houston</b>					
APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1	\$6,946,643	\$6,870,444	(\$76,199)	(1.1%)	Recommendations reflect an anticipated All Funds decrease of \$76,198 that includes a \$4,068 reduction in Appropriated Receipts and a \$72,130 reduction in Interagency Contracts.
APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2	\$3,174,247	\$3,225,824	\$51,577	1.6%	Recommendations reflect General Revenue increase to cover the salary, benefits, and longevity costs for anticipated increases in judicial tenure during the 2024-25 biennium. (See also, Selected Fiscal and Policy Issue #1)

The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - Senate -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2022-23 Base	2024-25 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1	\$0	\$461,736	\$461,736	100.0%	Recommendations include a new strategy for salary adjustments.
SUBTOTAL	\$10,120,890	\$10,558,004	\$437,114	4.3%	
<b>Total, Goal, APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS A.1.1</b>	<b>\$58,838,759</b>	<b>\$58,741,799</b>	<b>(\$96,960)</b>	<b>(0.2%)</b>	
<b>Total, Goal, APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES 1.1.2</b>	<b>\$28,353,463</b>	<b>\$28,542,209</b>	<b>\$188,746</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	
<b>Total, Goal, SALARY ADJUSTMENTS 2.1.1</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,199,642</b>	<b>\$4,199,642</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Total, LBB Recommendations</b>	<b>\$87,192,222</b>	<b>\$91,483,650</b>	<b>\$4,291,428</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	

The 14 Court of Appeals Districts  
FTE Highlights - Senate

Full-Time-Equivalent Positions	Expended 2021	Estimated 2022	Budgeted 2023	Recommended 2024	Recommended 2025
Cap	414.5	402.5	402.5	389.0	389.0
Actual/Budgeted	382.5	373.0	401.0	NA	NA

Schedule of Exempt Positions (Cap)					
Chief Justice (14)	\$156,500	\$156,500	\$156,500	\$156,500	\$156,500
Justice (66)	\$154,000	\$154,000	\$154,000	\$154,000	\$154,000

Notes:

a) The 14 Courts of Appeals are exempted from Article IX, Section 6.10, which limits the number of FTEs paid from appropriated funds to the amounts specified in the General Appropriations Act.

b) The base salaries for the Courts of Appeals justices are linked to the base salary of a district judge under the tiered, tenure-based compensation structure established by Government Code §659.012. Statute sets the base salary for a justice, other than a chief justice, of the 14 Courts of Appeals at 110.0 percent of the district judge base salary (\$154,000) for the first four years of their tenure. When their tenure is between 4 and 8 years, the court of appeals justice earns 110.0 percent of their \$154,000 base salary (\$169,400). A court of appeals justice with over 8 years of tenure earns a salary that’s 120.0 percent of their \$154,000 base salary (\$184,800).