

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Relating to the recommendations by the Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials.

WHEREAS, the voters of Missouri approved a constitutional amendment in 1994 that created a commission charged with setting the amount of compensation paid to statewide elected officials, legislators and judges; and

WHEREAS, prior to the approval of this amendment, the General Assembly had the duty and responsibility of setting salaries; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials has recommended that salaries be increased for judges and statewide elected officials by \$1,200 plus 4% beginning on July 1, 2007 and by \$1,200 plus 4% beginning on January 1, 2009 for legislators; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has additionally recommended that judges, statewide elected officials and legislators receive the same increase in salary as the average state worker for the fiscal years beginning in July 2007 and July 2008, provided that legislators shall not receive such increases until January 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has also recommended a one-time payment of \$2,000 for each Associate Circuit Judge on July 1, 2007 to partially compensate for the Circuit Court duties currently being assumed by Associate Circuit Judges throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the recommended increases would result in a net increase for judges, statewide elected officials and legislators that is far greater than any expected cost-of-living adjustment for state employees in the coming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the state has many other priorities for appropriating money in the budget that are far more important than the salary increases recommended by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the changes recommended by the Missouri Citizen's Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials will take effect on July 1, 2007, unless disapproved by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly may disapprove of the recommendation by a concurrent resolution approved by both the Senate and the House before February 1, 2007:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the recommendations of the Missouri Citizen's Commission on the Compensation of Elected Officials contained in its report dated November 30, 2006, be disapproved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor Matt Blunt.