

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Court of Appeals judges; reimbursement housing/travel expenses

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Overview

This bill authorizes reimbursement of housing and mileage expenses for Court of Appeals judges whose permanent place of residence is more than 50 miles from chambers in St. Paul. It directs the Judicial Council to set the amount of housing expenses that may be reimbursed in an amount not less than \$1,000 per month. In addition, it provides that mileage will be reimbursed at the current I.R.S. rate (for 2013, 56.5 cents/business mile).

Background: There are 19 judges on the Court of Appeals. Eight seats are designated by congressional district and the remaining seats are at-large. A judge elected or appointed to a congressional district seat remains eligible for that seat without regard to a subsequent change of residence. Per statute, judges are paid expenses for travel to and from their place of residence for two years.