

Proposed Draft Compensation Council Statutory Reforms (for Final Report consideration)

The Council urges the Legislature to enact reforms that align with the Minnesota Judicial Council's support⁽¹⁾ for a two-year Compensation Council process. The current April 1 odd-year deadline structure does not provide for adequate deliberations in setting salaries for 37 individual state agency classifications and four constitutional offices, as well as recommend salaries for the six classes of justices and judges within the state Judicial Branch. A late-summer even year final deadline for the next biennium would properly fit seamlessly into the statewide preliminary biennial budget submission deadline in mid-October of the even year. The Council supports a statutory change strictly limiting its authority to set and recommend salaries to no more than the two successive biennia, accordingly.

The Council also supports the Minnesota Judicial Council formal proposal to eliminate or clarify the statutory ex parte communications restriction.⁽²⁾

1) Minnesota Judicial Council 2/15/2024:

[https://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/Judicial_Council_Library/February-2024-Minutes-\(public\)_1.pdf](https://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/Judicial_Council_Library/February-2024-Minutes-(public)_1.pdf) ?

2) Compensation Council ad hoc group report referenced in the Judicial Council's 2/15/2024 minutes:

<https://www.lcc.mn.gov/compcouncil/meetings/250307/Independent-Comp-Council-final-report-11-20-23rev2.pdf>