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LC002648  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- COURTS -- COURT CLERKS'  
INCENTIVE PAY

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, DiPalma, Bissaillon, Dimitri, LaMountain, McKenney,  
and Burke

Date Introduced: April 04, 2025

Referred To: Senate Labor & Gaming

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Sections 8-4.1-1, 8-4.1-2 and 8-4.1-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 8-4.1  
2 entitled "Court Clerks' Incentive Pay" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **8-4.1-1. Incentive pay plan.**

4           There is hereby established an incentive pay program in accordance with the provisions of  
5 this chapter offering financial compensation to clerks of the supreme, superior, family, ~~and~~ district,  
6 ~~courts and administrators of the~~ workers' compensation court, and the traffic tribunal for furthering  
7 their education in the field of court administration or law enforcement. This incentive program shall  
8 apply to all clerks who ~~hold this position on July 5, 1994, and shall not apply to any person hired~~  
9 ~~as a clerk after July 5, 1994~~ meet the eligibility requirements set forth in §8-4.1-2.

10          **8-4.1-2. Eligibility for plan.**

11          (a) Any full time clerk of the supreme, superior, family, ~~or~~ district ~~court or administrators~~  
12 ~~of the~~ workers' compensation court, and the traffic tribunal covered by a collective bargaining  
13 agreement in existence on July 5, 1994 and providing for the incentive pay plan under this chapter  
14 shall be eligible for the plan established by this chapter provided ~~he or she:~~ the person acquires

15           ~~(1) Has, on or before July 5, 1994, acquired~~ the requisite degree as set forth in § 8-4.1-3;  
16 ~~or,~~

17           ~~(2) Has, on or before July 5, 1994, accumulated at least fifty percent (50%) of the credits~~  
18 ~~necessary to receive either degree as set forth in § 8-4.1-3 and thereafter receives that degree; or~~

1           ~~(3) Is, on July 5, 1994, enrolled in a degree program, completion of which will entitle him~~  
2 ~~or her to either degree as set forth in § 8-4.1-3, and thereafter receives that degree.~~

3           (b) The clerk, ~~within thirty (30) days after July 5, 1994,~~ must submit to the court  
4 administrator a certified copy of a transcript from a college or university as evidence of such credits.  
5 Provided, however, notwithstanding any general or public law to the contrary, incentive payments  
6 shall not be continued to any person in the future when the person no longer holds a clerk position  
7 as set forth in this section. ~~Additionally, no clerk hired after July 5, 1994, shall be eligible to receive~~  
8 ~~incentive payments under the provisions of this chapter.~~

9           **8-4.1-7. Effective date.**

10           ~~Sections 8-4.1-1—8-4.1-3~~ Section 8-4.1-1 shall not take effect ~~for any existing court~~  
11 ~~clerks or administrators presently receiving an incentive pay under this chapter until the expiration~~  
12 ~~of any collective bargaining agreement in existence on July 5, 1994~~ upon passage. ~~However, upon~~  
13 ~~the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement which is in effect at the time of July 5, 1994,~~  
14 ~~§§ 8-4.1-1—8-4.1-3 shall apply to all existing clerks receiving an incentive under this chapter.~~

15           SECTION 2. Section 8-4.1-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 8-4.1 entitled "Court Clerks'  
16 Incentive Pay" is hereby repealed.

17           **8-4.1-6. Additional credit for masters degree.**

18           ~~Any other provision of this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding, every full time clerk~~  
19 ~~of the supreme, superior, family, or district court who earns the degree of master in public~~  
20 ~~administration shall be paid, in addition to basic salary and any other credit to which he or she is~~  
21 ~~entitled hereunder, the additional sum of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) each year.~~

22           SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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- 1           This act would extend the incentive pay plan to all full-time court clerks, including the  
2 traffic tribunal, who meet the eligibility requirements. It would also repeal § 8-4.1-6 regarding  
3 additional credit for a master's degree.  
4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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