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WSJ.com

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NY hike in judges' salaries faulted

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — New York State Bar Association President Vincent Doyle says he's concerned that the new Judicial Compensation Commission has approved only modest salary hikes for state judges whose pay has stagnated since 1999.

The commission voted to increase the annual salaries of state Supreme Court justices from \$136,700 to \$160,000 next year. The panel has approved further raises to \$167,000 in 2013 and to \$174,000 in 2014.

Doyle says that means judicial salaries will have risen 27 percent over a 15-year period, far less than the projected inflation rate. He says salary stagnation makes it harder to attract and retain talented judges.

The 77,000-member association represents lawyers.

The seven-member commission established last year has authority to fix salaries for the state's 1,300 judges unless its plan is revised by legislation.

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