

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 713  
Judiciary

(Cecil County Delegation)

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Cecil County - Orphans' Court Judges - Compensation

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This bill requires that, beginning in fiscal 2027, the Cecil County Council is to determine the annual salary and expense allowance for a judge of the Cecil County Orphan’s Court. The annual salary must be at least \$11,000, and the allowance for traveling expenses must be at least \$1,500. Further, the chief judge must receive additional compensation of at least \$1,500 in an amount determined by the council. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the increases take effect at the beginning of the next terms of office. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Cecil County expenditures increase by at least \$4,800 in FY 2027 and by at least \$8,200 in FY 2028 and beyond. Revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The current salary for an Orphan’s Court judge in Cecil County is \$8,750 annually. The allowance for traveling expenses for an Orphan’s Court judge in Cecil County is \$1,500 annually and paid out quarterly.

**Local Expenditures:** Cecil County expenditures increase by a minimum of \$4,813 in fiscal 2027 and by at least \$8,250 for fiscal 2028 and beyond. This estimate reflects the

minimum salary (and expense allowance) amounts that may authorized and the next terms of office beginning December 2026.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** SB 835 (Cecil County Senators) - Judicial Proceedings.

**Information Source(s):** Cecil County; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 2026  
caw/jkb

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