

(b) *The Chief Judge of the District Court shall have the power to make rules for the governing of the District Court, subject to and not inconsistent with the rules of the Court of Appeals.*

(c) *In the event of the absence of any judge because of disability, sickness, vacation, travel, or other reason, the chief judge of the District Court may assign another District Court judge from any district who shall sit in the place of the absent judge, and if, in the opinion of the chief judge of the District Court, the accumulation of judicial business in any district or division thereof is such that prompt attention to all pending business and speedy justice to all litigants is not being provided, the chief judge of the District Court may assign one or more District Court judges from other districts on a temporary basis to the district in question to assist in handling the business of the court and the trial or other disposition of cases therein.*

144. *Qualifications and Pay of Judges, Pension.*

(a) *Each judge of the District Court shall have been a citizen of the State of Maryland and a member of the bar of the State for at least five (5) years immediately prior to his appointment and shall be a resident of the county or district for which he is a judge. Each District Court judge shall be paid \$25,925. Each judge shall likewise be entitled to mileage, at the rate established for State employees for travel outside his district on court business, and in multiple-county districts, for travel incurred in sitting in different counties within the district and shall likewise be entitled to an expense account for meals and overnight lodging when traveling on court business.*

(b) *Every judge of the District Court, upon retirement for any reason, shall be entitled to a pension computed on the same basis and at the same rates as are applicable to a Circuit Court judge, and the widow of any District Court judge shall likewise be entitled to a pension computed on the same basis and at the same rates and upon the same conditions as are applicable to the widow of a Circuit Court judge.*

(c) *In the City of Baltimore and in those counties where a judge who, prior to the effective date of this subtitle, has acquired retirement and pension benefits or rights by virtue of city or county legislation or State legislation applying to a particular local political subdivision or subdivisions, and which judge continues in office after the effective date of this subtitle, all pension or retirement benefits or rights so acquired shall be continued and paid as provided under the particular legislation creating them; but the judge or his widow, as the case may be, may elect to receive the State pension as provided in Subsection (b) hereinafter described, computed on the basis of years of full-time judicial service at the time of making the election as well as years of judicial service thereafter, and any judge who is ineligible to continue in office by reason of the Constitution or this subtitle, shall not lose any pension or retirement benefits which he has acquired under any law prior to the first Monday in July, ~~1970~~ 1971.*

(d) *Every judge of the District Court who elects to receive the pension provided in Subsection (b) of this Section or who is other-*