

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION

June 7, 2016

The Honorable Lawrence Denney
Secretary of State
700 West Jefferson Street, Room E205
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0080

The Honorable Brandon D. Woolf
State Controller
700 West State Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0011

Re: Report of the Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation

Dear Secretary of State Denney and State Controller Woolf:

Pursuant to Section 23, Article III of the Constitution of the State of Idaho, and Sections 67-406a and 67-406b, Idaho Code, the Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation met at the Statehouse in Boise, Idaho on June 1, 2016, to make its recommendations for the rates of compensation for services to be rendered by the members of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature and the expenses to be incurred in rendering those services for the period commencing December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2018. The Committee recommends the following:

I. SALARY

1. Each member of the Legislature shall be paid a base salary of seventeen thousand and seventeen dollars (\$17,017) per year for the period from December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017. Each member of the Legislature shall be paid a base salary of seventeen thousand, three hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$17,358) for the period from December 1, 2017 through November 30, 2018.
2. No person appointed to the Legislature as a temporary replacement shall receive a salary.
3. In addition to the salary established for each member of the Legislature, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each be paid an additional salary of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per year.

II. UNVOUCHERED EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

1. Each member of the Legislature whose primary residence is outside of Ada County and who maintains a second residence in Ada County during a regular session shall be paid an unvouchered expense allowance of one hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$129) per day for each day of that regular session.

2. Each member of the Legislature who does not maintain a second residence within fifty (50) miles of the Statehouse in Boise, Idaho, during a regular session shall be paid an unvouchered expense allowance of forty-nine dollars (\$49) per day for each day of that regular session.
3. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a lump sum unvouchered constituent service allowance of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$2,250) to be paid annually, on the last pay date preceding the first day of December, for expenses incurred for maintaining the office of the legislator. If a vacancy has occurred in the office since the adjournment of the last regular session of the Legislature, the two thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$2,250) shall be prorated between the individuals who have served in the office, using as a base the number of total days of service of each member serving in that office while the Legislature was not in session.
4. A person appointed to the Legislature as a temporary replacement shall not be entitled to reimbursement of unvouchered expenses but shall be entitled to reimbursement of vouchered expenses, as provided below in Section III (7) of this report.

III. VOUCHERED EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

1. Each member of the Legislature shall be entitled to expense reimbursement for actual travel expenses, including transportation, food and lodging as necessary in a manner consistent with policy for other state officers and employees, for coming to and returning from any organizational, regular or extraordinary session of the Legislature and for each day of an organizational or extraordinary session of the Legislature.
2. Each member of the Legislature whose primary residence is outside of Ada County and who maintains a second residence in Ada County during a regular session shall be entitled to actual transportation expense reimbursement, which shall not include food and lodging, for not to exceed one (1) round trip weekly between Boise and the member's primary residence during that regular session.
3. During a regular session only, each member of the Legislature who does not maintain a second residence within fifty (50) miles of the Statehouse in Boise, Idaho, shall be entitled to actual mileage expense reimbursement for a daily round trip from the member's home during that regular session.
4. During an extraordinary session only, each member of the Legislature whose primary residence is outside of Ada County and who maintains a second residence in Ada County during a regular session shall be entitled to expense reimbursement for actual travel expense, including transportation, food and lodging as necessary, in a manner consistent with policy for other state officers and employees, for one (1) round trip between Boise and the member's primary residence during that extraordinary session.
5. A member shall be entitled to expense reimbursement for actual travel expense, including transportation, food and lodging as necessary, in a manner consistent with policy for other state officers and employees, while engaged in official legislative business, with prior approval of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, when the Legislature is not in session.

6. The Committee further recommends that individual members of the Legislature seek the most advantageous and cost-effective travel arrangements, including advance purchase fares.
7. A person appointed to the Legislature as a temporary replacement shall be entitled to actual expense reimbursement to the same extent that members of the Legislature are permitted under Section III (1) – (6) above.

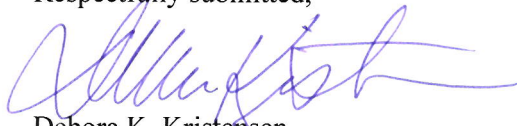
IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR PAYMENT

1. All salary amounts shall be paid on the same pay periods as other state officers and employees.
2. All unvouchered expense allowances shall be paid not less frequently than biweekly, except as provided in paragraph II, subsection 3, above.
3. Under the rules of the respective body, all timely, filed vouchered expense reimbursement claims shall be paid in the same manner and at the same rate as expense reimbursements are made to other state officers and employees.

V. ADDITIONAL BENEFITS: MEDICAL, DENTAL AND LIFE INSURANCE, RETIREMENT AND HONORARIA

1. The Committee recommends continuation of the system of medical, dental, and life insurance benefits as provided for other state employees, and other services, including telephone, postage and stationary, as provided for the Sixty-Third Idaho Legislature.
2. The Committee recommends the continuation of retirement benefits for legislators as provided under Idaho law. Further, the Committee strongly recommends that the Legislature reconsider changes to the calculation of legislative retirement benefits proposed under 2015 House Bill 100.
3. A legislator filling a legislative position on a state board or commission is authorized to receive payment or honorarium in the same manner as his or her fellow board or commission members. The payment or honorarium may be in addition to the salary established for each member of the Legislature. Provided however, that if the limitations of Idaho Code section 59-102 apply, it shall be unlawful for the legislative member to receive any such payment or honorarium. For purposes of this authorization, the term “legislative position” refers to instances where a state board or commission is required to have one or more legislative members and the legislator is appointed to satisfy that requirement.

Respectfully submitted,



Debora K. Kristensen
Chair

cc: Senator Brent Hill, President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Representative Scott Bedke, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Bill Daniels
William F. "Bud" Yost
Eva Gay Yost
Reed Larsen
John Goedde