RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 954 (HB 1201) **2026 Regular Session** **Illg**

Existing law (R.S. 24:31) provides that members of the legislature may receive compensation, referred to as per diem, equal to the rate allowable for per diem deduction by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) for the location of the state capital during their attendance on the legislature.

New law further authorizes members of the legislature to receive the GSA rate for per diem for no more than 10 days a month when engaged in official legislative business on days not in attendance on the body. Provides that such per diem shall be paid only upon the filing of a voucher by the member with the respective presiding officer for each such day and approval of the presiding officer.

Existing law (R.S. 24:31.1) provides that in addition to per diem and all other allowances provided by law for members of the legislature, each member of the legislature, except the president and the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker and the speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives, shall be paid a salary in the full sum of $16,800 per year.

Existing law provides that in addition to the per diem and salary and all other allowances provided by law for members of the legislature, each member shall be paid a mileage allowance for trips to and from the capitol during sessions of the legislature, regardless of the method of transportation, equal to the GSA standard mileage rate for business travel. Provides that such mileage allowance shall be paid for a number of trips not to exceed the number of calendar weeks, or fraction thereof, of the session.

Existing law provides that during the interim between sessions each member shall also be paid, for actual attendance at meetings of legislative committees of which he is a member, a mileage allowance equal to the GSA standard mileage rate for business travel for actual travel to and from the site of such meetings.

New law further authorizes members of the legislature to receive the same mileage allowance up to 10 days per month for any meeting or activity when engaging in official legislative business.

Existing law provides that the mileage allowance for legislative committee meetings shall be paid only upon the filing by the member with the respective presiding officer of a voucher for each such meeting. Further provides that the legislature or either house may, by appropriate resolution, provide that no mileage allowance shall be paid in the case of particular committees or particular meetings.

New law requires the member to file a voucher in the same manner as provided in existing law for payment of the mileage allowance provided for by new law.

Existing law provides that in addition to the salary, compensation, and all other allowances provided by law for members of the legislature, each member of the legislature shall be paid a monthly expense allowance in the amount of $500 per month for expenses in connection with the holding or conduct of their office.

New law further provides that the expense allowance shall be adjusted for inflation on January first of each year by the change in the consumer price index - U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U), applied annually and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall only be made in whole increments of $100.

Prior law (R.S. 24:503) required that the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives be reimbursed for housing expenses when maintaining a residence in the capital city, not to exceed $1,000 per month. Required the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives to file an itemized statement of expenses and appropriate invoices or receipts.

New law extends the housing allowance for reimbursement of housing expenses when maintaining a residence in the capital city to all members of the legislature, not to exceed $1,000 per month. Requires an itemized statement but does not require expenses to be listed or the production of invoices or receipts. Authorizes the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to promulgate rules concerning the expenses incurred in maintaining a residence in the capital city including an annual election for reimbursement up to the monthly limit as an expense allowance or through an accountable plan maintained in accordance with federal law.

New law provides that the housing allowance shall be adjusted for inflation on January first of each year by the change in the consumer price index - U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U), applied annually and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall only be made in whole increments of $100.

Existing law (R.S. 36:10) sets the salary of each statewide elected official, except the governor, at $115,000.

New law provides for statewide elected officials, other than the governor, to receive an unvouchered housing allowance of $1,000 per month.

New law provides for statewide elected officials, other than the governor, to receive a monthly unvouchered expense allowance of $500 per month payable on the elected official's own warrant, adjusted annually for inflation on January first of each year by the change in the consumer price index - U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U), applied annually and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall only be made in whole increments of $100.

Effective at noon on January 10, 2028.

(Amends R.S. 24:31(A), 31.1(C)(2) and (E), and 503(B), and R.S. 36:10(B))