
DIGEST

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HB 161 Original

2022 Regular Session

Lyons

Abstract: Authorizes a maximum office allowance of \$1500 per month for a legislator if the average rent for a reasonable commercial office space situated in a parish represented by the legislator exceeds five hundred dollars per month.

Present law (R.S. 24:31.4) provides to each member of the legislature an office allowance of up to \$500 each month in vouchered expenses for such items as rent for office space in a parish or parishes which he represents, utilities, telephone, office supplies, and other expenses related to the holding and conducting of legislative office. Requires a member to submit appropriate invoices or receipts in order to have those expenses paid or reimbursed from these funds each month, with the payment in any month not exceeding \$500. Present law prohibits payments for office space located in a legislator's residence or for any office space which is located in property owned wholly or in part by the legislator or a member of his family.

Proposed law retains present law, but provides that if the average rent for a reasonable commercial office space situated in a parish which a member represents exceeds \$500 per month, then such member of the legislature shall be paid a monthly expense allowance in the amount of \$1500 per month, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for payment of rent for office space in a parish or parishes which he represents, and for payment of the cost of maintaining utilities in said office or offices and for other expenses related to the holding or conduct of their office.

Effective July 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 24:31.4(A))