DIGEST

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HB 161 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Lyons

Abstract: Increases the legislative office allowance from \$500 to \$1000 each month.

<u>Present law</u> (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. <u>Present law</u> 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.

<u>Proposed law</u> increases the office allowance to \$1000 each month and otherwise retains <u>present law</u>.

Effective July 1, 2022.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and Governmental</u> Affairs to the original bill:

- 1. Remove increase of legislative office expense allowance to \$1500 if the average rent for a reasonable commercial office space situated in a parish represented by the legislator exceeds \$500 per month.
- 2. Increase the legislative office expense allowance from \$500 to \$1000 per month.