

Regular Session, 2004

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 177

BY SENATOR HINES

SENATE. Creates a Senate executive committee and empowers such committee to make recommendations to the president regarding certain matters and to establish the amount of an annual fiscal year vouchered allotment to cover certain expenses of individual legislators.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To adopt Senate Rule No. 13.22 of the Rules of Order of the Senate, relative to the  
3 jurisdiction, powers and functions of Senate committees; to establish and provide for  
4 an executive committee of the Senate; and to provide for the authority of such  
5 committee.

6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana adopts Senate  
7 Rule No. 13.22 of the Rules of Order of the Senate to read as follows:

8 Rule 13.22. Senate Executive Committee

9 A. There shall be a special committee to be called the Senate Executive  
10 Committee which shall be composed of five members as follows: ex officio, the  
11 President and the President Pro Tempore; the chairs of the Senate Committee on  
12 Finance and the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs; and one  
13 member of the Senate appointed by the President.

14 B. The committee shall have advisory authority to make recommendations to  
15 the President, other officers, and the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs  
16 concerning matters internal to the Senate including, without limitation, matters  
17 affecting Senate space and facilities, officers and employees, rules, administration, and

1 budgetary and financial questions.

2 C. The committee shall have the authority to establish an annual vouchered  
3 allotment for members of the Senate to be drawn by each member in monthly  
4 payments. This vouchered allotment shall be used exclusively for expenses incurred  
5 in the course and scope of duties as a member of the Senate such as rent for office  
6 space; electricity; water; gas; telephone; communication services; stationery; supplies;  
7 mileage or expense reimbursement for official travel in or out of state; and other  
8 expenses related to the holding or conduct of office. The committee may authorize  
9 an unexpended allotment amount to be carried forward from one fiscal year into the  
10 next fiscal year. The allotment shall be established no later than February first of each  
11 calendar year to be effective for the succeeding fiscal year. This allotment shall be set  
12 by the adoption of a resolution of the Executive Committee in an open public hearing.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of Senate Rule No. 13.22, the  
14 Senate Executive Committee of the Senate shall meet and establish an allotment amount for  
15 the balance of the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year which amount shall not be drawn until September,  
16 2004.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, until the allotment provided for by Senate Rule  
18 No. 13.22 is drawn beginning September, 2004, all expense reimbursement payable to  
19 members of the Senate shall continue to be paid in the same amount and using the same  
20 procedure as was the case prior to the adoption of Senate Rule No. 13.22.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of  
the legislative instrument, were prepared by Diane M. Burkhart.

---

#### DIGEST

Establishes a Senate Executive Committee comprised of the president of the Senate and the president pro tempore of the Senate, the chairs of the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee and one Senate member appointed by the president. Authorizes the committee to advise the president of the Senate regarding specified internal Senate matters. Empowers the committee to establish an annual vouchered allotment for members to be drawn by each Senator in monthly payments to be used exclusively for expenses incurred in the course and scope of duties as a member of the Senate such as rent for office space; electricity; water; gas; telephone; communication services; stationery; supplies; mileage or expense reimbursement for official travel in or out of state; and other expenses related to the holding or conduct of office.

Provides for the allotment to be set no later than Feb. 1st of each calendar year to be effective

for the succeeding fiscal year. Requires the allotment be set by the adoption of a resolution in an open public hearing. Provides for the establishment of an amount for the balance of the 2004-05 FY to be drawn beginning in Sept. 2004. Specifies that there is no change in the amount or method of payment of any expense payments due a member during the period prior to Sept. 2004.

(Adds Senate Rule No. 13.22)