

Regular Session, 2008

SENATE BILL NO. 672

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

LEGISLATORS. Provides for a pay raise for legislators. (1/1/09)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 24:31, 31.1(A) and (E), 502(A), 504(B), 506(A), and 507(B), relative to compensation of members of the legislature and per diem; to provide for per diem during regular and extraordinary sessions; to provide for an increase in the compensation paid to legislators; to provide for an increase in compensation paid to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate; to provide for an increase in the compensation paid to the speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 24:31, 31.1(A) and (E), 502(A), 504(B), 506(A), and 507(B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§31. Compensation of members

The compensation of the members of the legislature shall be equal to the rate allowable for per diem deduction under Section 162(h)(1)(B)(ii) of Title 26 of the United States Code for the location of the state capital during their attendance on that body. **This per diem shall apply only to service rendered during regular and**

**extraordinary sessions of the legislature.**

§31.1. Salary for members; expense allowance; mileage allowance

A. In addition to the per diem and all other allowances provided by law for members of the Legislature of Louisiana, 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 ~~sixteen thousand eight hundred~~ **seventy thousand** dollars per annum. **This salary shall be compensation for service to the House of Representatives or the Senate, as appropriate, including that rendered during regular and extraordinary sessions of the legislature and during the interim between sessions.**

\* \* \*

E. 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, as referred to in R.S. 11:403(10), ~~in the amount of five hundred dollars per month~~ for expenses in connection with the holding or conduct of their office. Warrants for the payment of such allowance shall be in accordance with, and subject to, Subsection B.

**(1) For members of the House of Representatives this monthly expense allowance shall be in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars.**

**(2) For members of the Senate this monthly expense amount shall be in the amount of three thousand dollars.**

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§502. Speaker of the House of Representatives; salary; expenses

A. The salary of the speaker of the House of Representatives shall be ~~thirty-two~~ **eighty** thousand dollars per annum, such salary to be payable monthly on his own warrant and drawn on the general fund of the state. This salary shall be compensation to the speaker for service to the House of Representatives, including that rendered during regular and extraordinary sessions of the legislature and during

the interim between sessions.

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§504. Speaker pro tempore; assumption of duties of speaker; salary

A. \* \* \*

B. The salary of the speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives shall be ~~twenty-four~~ **seventy five** thousand ~~five hundred~~ dollars per annum. This salary shall be compensation to the speaker pro tempore for service to the House of Representatives, including that rendered during regular and extraordinary sessions of the legislature and during the interim between sessions. The salary provided for in this Section shall be payable in the same manner as provided in R.S. 24:31.1(B). The speaker pro tempore shall be entitled to the per diem and all other allowances provided by law for members of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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§506. President of the Senate; salary; expenses

A. The salary of the president of the Senate shall be ~~thirty-two~~ **eighty** thousand dollars per annum, such salary to be payable monthly on his own warrant and drawn on the general fund of the state. This salary shall be compensation to the president for service to the Senate, including that rendered during regular and extraordinary sessions of the legislature and during the interim between sessions.

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§507. President pro tempore; assumption of duties of president; salary

A. \* \* \*

B. The salary of the president pro tempore of the Senate shall be ~~twenty-four~~ **seventy five** thousand ~~five hundred~~ dollars per annum. This salary shall be compensation to the president pro tempore for service to the Senate, including that rendered during regular and extraordinary sessions of the legislature and during the interim between sessions. The salary provided for in this Section shall be payable in the same manner as provided in R.S. 24:31.1(B). The president pro tempore shall be entitled to the per diem and all other allowances provided by law for members of

1 the Legislature of Louisiana.

2 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2009.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alden A. Clement, Jr.

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#### DIGEST

Present law provides that legislators shall be paid a per diem equal to the rate allowable for per diem deduction under the Federal Tax Code for the location of the state capital during their attendance. Proposed law retains present law but provides that this per diem shall only be paid during regular and special sessions, and not during the interim.

Present law provides that in addition to the per diem and all other allowances, members of the legislature shall be paid an annual salary of \$16,800. Proposed law retains present law but increases a legislator's annual salary to \$70,000.

Present law provides that in addition to a salary and other allowances, a legislator shall be paid a monthly expense allowance for expenses in connection with holding or conducting their office in the amount of \$500 per month. Proposed law retains present law but increases the amount of this monthly allowance to \$1,500 for members of the House of Representatives and \$3,000 for members of the Senate.

Present law provides that the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate shall each be paid an annual salary of \$32,000. Proposed law retains present law but increases the speaker's and president's annual salaries to \$80,000.

Present law provides that the speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall each be paid an annual salary of \$24,500. Proposed law retains present law but increases these annual salaries to \$75,000.

Effective January 1, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 24:31, 31.1(A) and (E), 502(A), 504(B), 506(A), and 507(B))