

LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION COMMISSION AMENDMENTS

1999 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: **Raymond W. Short**

Melvin R. Brown
Evan L. Olsen

Brent H. Goodfellow

Patrice M. Arent

AN ACT RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE; CHANGING THE METHOD BY WHICH THE LEGISLATURE ACCEPTS, REJECTS, OR LOWERS THE SALARY RECOMMENDATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION COMMISSION; AND AMENDING THE TIMING, CONTENT, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

36-2-2, as last amended by Chapter 95, Laws of Utah 1996

36-2-3, as last amended by Chapter 20, Laws of Utah 1995

36-2-5, as enacted by Chapter 3, Laws of Utah 1982, Third Special Session

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **36-2-2** is amended to read:

36-2-2. Salaries and expenses of members -- Compensation of in-session employees.

(1) (a) (i) The [compensation] salary of members of the Legislature is \$100 per day for each calendar day for annual general sessions through the year 2000.

(ii) Unless rejected or lowered as provided in Section 36-2-3, the salary of members of the Legislature beginning in the year 2001 and each odd-numbered year thereafter shall be at the amount recommended by the Legislative Compensation Commission in its report issued in the previous even-numbered year.

(b) (i) Members of the Legislature shall also receive \$100 per day for each day the legislator attends veto-override and special sessions and other authorized legislative meetings through the year 2000.

(ii) Unless rejected or lowered as provided in Section 36-2-3, the salary of members of the Legislature for attendance at a veto-override, special session, and other authorized legislative

meetings beginning in the year 2001 and each odd-numbered year thereafter shall be at the amount recommended by the Legislative Compensation Commission in its report issued in the previous even-numbered year.

(2) (a) (i) The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall receive an additional \$1,000 per year through the year 2000.

(ii) Unless rejected or lowered as provided in Section 36-2-3, the salary of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives beginning in the year 2001 and each odd-numbered year thereafter shall be at the amount recommended by the Legislative Compensation Commission in its report issued in the previous even-numbered year.

(b) (i) The majority and minority leaders of each house shall receive an additional \$500 per year through the year 2000.

(ii) The salary of the majority and minority leadership of each house beginning in the year 2001 and each odd-numbered year thereafter shall be at the amount recommended by the Legislative Compensation Commission in its report issued in the previous even-numbered year.

(3) (a) The Legislature shall establish, by joint rule of the Legislature, the expenses of its members.

(b) Rules governing expenses shall be based upon:

(i) payment of necessary expenses for attendance during legislative sessions;

(ii) a mileage allowance; and

(iii) reimbursement for other expenses involved in the performance of legislative duties.

(4) (a) The compensation of in-session employees of the Legislature shall be fixed by joint resolution at each session of the Legislature.

(b) For necessary work done by the employees of the Legislature after the adjournment of the session, the labor and services rendered shall be approved and attested by the presiding officer of the house employing that work.

Section 2. Section **36-2-3** is amended to read:

36-2-3. Salaries of members set by Legislature based on recommendations of Legislative Compensation Commission.

~~[The salary]~~ (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the salaries of members of the Legislature shall automatically be set beginning January 1st of each odd-numbered year at ~~[an annual general session based upon recommendations of]~~ the amount recommended by the Legislative Compensation Commission in the preceding even-numbered year.

(b) This salary recommendation shall be based on either:

(i) a daily basis:

(A) for each calendar day for annual general sessions; and

(B) for each day a legislator attends veto-override and special sessions and other authorized legislative meetings; or

(ii) an annualized salary.

(2) (a) The Legislature during the even-numbered annual general session in the year just preceding the effective date of any salary change may ~~[accept,] reject[;]~~ or lower the salary recommendation, but may not increase the salary recommendation.

(b) If the Legislature does not act as provided in Subsection (2)(a), they have by law accepted the Legislative Compensation Commission's recommendations.

Section 3. Section **36-2-5** is amended to read:

36-2-5. Duties of Legislative Compensation Commission.

~~[It is the duty of the]~~ The Legislative Compensation Commission has the following duties:

(1) ~~[To]~~ It shall study and formulate recommendations concerning the salary levels for Utah state legislators. ~~[Such]~~ The study should be based upon maintaining a citizen Legislature in Utah, but compensating members fairly for their service in order that all individuals would have an opportunity to serve. Comparisons with salaries of other similar state legislators and other such factors should be considered in developing the recommendations. This study does not include a review of the appropriate expense level of legislators.

(2) ~~[To]~~ The commission shall submit to ~~[the]~~ each member of the Legislature, [during a general session] by January 2nd of each even-numbered year, recommendations concerning changes, if any, which should be made in the salary plan and its administration for state legislators. This recommendation shall include a recitation of the provisions of Section 36-2-3.

