

1 (G) Salary limitation. Any increase in salary of any member of the
2 legislature shall not become effective until the commencement of the subsequent
3 term for that office following ~~the adoption or enactment of the increase~~ as provided
4 in Article X, Section 23.1 of this constitution.

5 Section 2. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
6 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
7 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
8 amend Article IV, Sections 4 and 21(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

9 §4. Compensation

10 Section 4. Except as otherwise provided by this constitution, the
11 compensation of each statewide elected official shall be established as provided by
12 law. An increase in the salary of a statewide elected official shall not become
13 effective until the commencement of the subsequent term for that office following
14 ~~the adoption or enactment of the increase~~ as provided in Article X, Section 23.1 of
15 this constitution.

16 * * *

17 §21. Public Service Commission

18 Section 21.

19 * * *

20 (F) Salary limitation. Any increase in salary provided ~~by law~~ for the
21 commission shall not become effective for ~~a member~~ members of the commission
22 until the commencement of the term of office for ~~the~~ a member of the commission
23 following ~~the enactment of the increase~~ as provided in Article X, Section 23.1 of this
24 constitution.

25 Section 3. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
26 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
27 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add
28 Article X, Section 23.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

1 §23.1. Compensation Commission2 Section 23.1. Compensation Commission. (A) Composition and Terms.

3 The compensation commission shall be established as an independent office within
4 the office of the legislative auditor except that the legislative auditor shall provide
5 staff support to the commission in the manner as requested and directed by the
6 commission. The compensation commission shall be composed of not more than
7 fifteen members who shall be selected in the manner provided by law. The members
8 of the compensation commission shall serve one ten-year term of office, after which
9 term the compensation commission shall cease to exist.

10 (B) Powers and Duties. In the manner provided in Paragraph (C) of this
11 Section and by law, the compensation commission shall examine, evaluate, and
12 establish the salary and other compensation for each elected official whose salary or
13 other compensation is established pursuant to statutory law as of January 1, 2026.

14 (C) Compensation. (1) The compensation commission shall complete a
15 comprehensive review and evaluation of the salary and other compensation for each
16 office or class of offices within its purview and shall establish the salary and other
17 compensation in accordance with its review and evaluation.

18 (2) The compensation commission shall publish the salary and other
19 compensation amount for an office or class of offices no later than January fifteenth
20 of the last full calendar year of the term of office for that office or in the case of a
21 class offices with staggered terms of office, no later than January fifteenth of the last
22 full calendar year of the term of office following the commission's review and
23 evaluation of that class of offices. The change in compensation for an office or class
24 of offices shall become effective at the beginning of the subsequent term. In the case
25 of a class of offices with staggered terms, the change in compensation for that entire
26 class of offices shall become effective at the beginning of first term of an office
27 within the class following the establishment of the salary or other compensation.

28 (3) After the salary and other compensation for an office or class of offices
29 has been established as provided in this Paragraph, the salary and other

1 compensation shall be adjusted each subsequent term of office to reflect increases
2 in the Consumer Price Index as provided in this Subparagraph. When there has been
3 an increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. city average
4 (CPI-U) during the term of an elected office whose salary and other compensation
5 was established by the compensation commission, the legislative auditor shall
6 compute and publish an adjustment in the salary and other compensation for each
7 office or class of offices in accordance with the growth rate of the CPI-U, not
8 seasonally adjusted, as prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau
9 of Labor Statistics for the preceding calendar years of the respective term of office,
10 rounding the adjusted salary and other compensation to the nearest whole dollar.
11 The adjusted salary and other compensation shall become effective in the manner
12 provided in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph.

13 (D) Funding. The legislature shall make adequate annual appropriations for
14 the compensation commission to enable the commission to fulfill its duties
15 efficiently and effectively until the commission ceases to exist.

16 Section 4. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
17 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3,
18 2026.

19 Section 5. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
20 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
21 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
22 follows:

23 Do you support an amendment to establish an independent compensation
24 commission within the legislative auditor's office to examine, evaluate, and establish
25 the salary and other compensation of elected officials whose salary or other
26 compensation is established pursuant to statutory law; to provide for the legislative
27 auditor to compute adjustments in accordance with increases in the Consumer Price
28 Index; and to provide that an increase in compensation established by the
29 commission or computed by the legislative auditor is effective at the beginning of

1 a subsequent term of office? (Amends Article III, Section 4(G) and Article IV,
2 Sections 4 and 21(F); Adds Article X, Section 23.1))

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 249 Original

2026 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Requires the legislature to provide by law for and adequately fund an independent compensation commission to examine, evaluate, and establish the salary and other compensation for elected officials whose salary or other compensation is established pursuant to statute; provides that any increase established by the commission shall become effective at the beginning of the subsequent term of office in that class of offices; and requires the legislative auditor to adjust the salary and compensation in accordance with the CPI each term.

Proposed constitutional amendment establishes a compensation commission as an independent office within the office of the legislative auditor and requires the legislative auditor to provide staff support to the commission. Requires the legislature to make adequate annual appropriations for the compensation commission to fulfill its duties efficiently and effectively. Provides that the commission is composed as provided by law of not more than 15 members who serve one 10-year term, after which the commission ceases to exist. Requires the commission to examine, evaluate, and establish the salary and other compensation for each elected official whose salary or other compensation is established pursuant to present law as of Jan. 1, 2026.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires the commission to complete a comprehensive review and evaluation of the salary and other compensation for each office or class of offices within its purview at least once.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires the commission to publish its salary and compensation amount for an office no later than Jan. 15th of the last full calendar year of the term of office for that office. Provides that the change in salary and compensation for an office shall become effective at the beginning of the subsequent term of office for that office. Makes specific provisions for classes of offices with staggered terms. Further requires the legislative auditor, when there has been an increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. city average (CPI-U) during the term of an elected office within its purview, to adjust the salary and other compensation of each office or class of offices in accordance with the growth rate of the CPI-U, not seasonally adjusted, as prepared by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for the preceding calendar years of the respective term of office, rounding the adjusted salary and other compensation to the nearest whole dollar.

Present constitution provides that any increase in salary of any member of the legislature shall not become effective until the commencement of the subsequent term for that office following the adoption or enactment of the increase and provides that an increase in the salary of a statewide elected official shall not become effective until the commencement of the subsequent term for that office following the adoption or enactment of the increase. Further provides that any increase in salary provided by law for the Public Service Commission shall not become effective for a member of the commission until the commencement of the term of office for the member of the commission following the enactment of the increase.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides instead that the increase for legislators and statewide elected officials shall not become effective until the commencement of the subsequent term for those offices following the increase as provided in the provisions of the proposed constitutional amendment. Proposed constitutional amendment provides the increase shall not become effective for members of the public service commission until the commencement of the term of office for a member of the commission following the establishment of the change in salary and other compensation.

Present constitution provides that the compensation of an elected official shall not be decreased during the term office. Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 3, 2026.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §4(G) and Art. IV, §§4 and 21(F); Adds Const. Art. X, §23.1)