

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1201

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

ELECTED OFFICIALS/COMP: Provides with respect to the compensation of statewide elected officials and legislators

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 24:31(A), 31.1(C)(2), 502(B), 503(B), and 506(B) and R.S.
3 36:10, relative to compensation of elected officials; to provide for the salary of the
4 governor and other statewide elected officials; to authorize a vehicle and housing
5 allowance for statewide elected officials other than the governor; to provide for the
6 per diem compensation of members of the legislature; to provide for the mileage
7 allowance available to members of the legislature; to provide for per diem and
8 mileage allowance for a member when engaged in official legislative business on
9 days not in attendance on the body; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 24:31(A), 31.1(C)(2), 502(B), 503(B), and 506(B) are hereby
12 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

13 §31. Compensation of members; per diem election

14 A.(1) The compensation of the members of the legislature shall be equal to
15 the rate allowable for per diem deduction under 26 U.S.C. 162(h)(1)(B)(ii) for the
16 location of the state capital during their attendance on that body and for no more than
17 ten days a month when engaged in official legislative business on days not in
18 attendance on the body.

1 ~~of the House.~~ The speaker shall be entitled to the per diem and all other allowances
2 provided for by law for members of the legislature.

3 §503. Expenses

4 * * *

5 B. The ~~president~~ members of the Senate and ~~speaker of the~~ members of the
6 House of Representatives shall be entitled to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in
7 maintaining a residence in the capital city, in an amount not to exceed one thousand
8 dollars per month, upon filing an itemized statement ~~of expenses and appropriate~~
9 ~~invoices or receipts~~ supporting the same with the chief clerical officer of their
10 respective house of the legislature. The Legislative Budgetary Control Council may
11 promulgate rules concerning expenses pursuant to this Subsection including an
12 annual election for reimbursement up to the monthly limit as an expense allowance
13 or through an accountable plan maintained in accordance with Title 26 of the United
14 States Code.

15 * * *

16 §506. President of the Senate; salary; expenses

17 * * *

18 B. ~~In addition to the days for which he is authorized a per diem as provided~~
19 ~~in R.S. 24:31 or for attendance at meetings of legislative and other committees or~~
20 ~~commissions during the interim between sessions, the president shall be paid the per~~
21 ~~diem authorized in R.S. 24:31 for each day spent in the state capitol in the conduct~~
22 ~~of the business of his office, upon filing of a voucher for each such day with the~~
23 ~~secretary of the Senate.~~ The president shall be entitled to the per diem and all other
24 allowances provided for by law for members of the legislature.

25 Section 2. R.S. 36:10 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

26 §10. Statewide elected officials; salary and compensation

27 A. The annual salary of the governor during his term shall be ~~one hundred~~
28 ~~thirty thousand dollars~~ equal to thirty-five percent of the average salary of the

1 presidents of each public postsecondary education system for the fiscal year prior to
2 the governor taking office, payable monthly upon his own warrant.

3 B.(1) The annual salary of each statewide elected official, except the
4 governor, during his term shall be ~~one hundred fifteen thousand dollars~~ equal to
5 thirty percent of the average salary of the presidents of each public postsecondary
6 education system for the fiscal year prior to the elected official taking office, payable
7 monthly upon the statewide elected official's own warrant.

8 (2) In addition to his salary, each statewide elected official, except the
9 governor, shall be entitled to a monthly housing allowance of two thousand five
10 hundred dollars per month and a monthly vehicle allowance of one thousand dollars
11 per month payable upon the statewide elected official's own warrant.

12 Section 3. This Act shall become effective at noon on January 10, 2028.

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 1201 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

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Abstract: Provides for the salary of the governor and other statewide elected officials; provides for a housing allowance and vehicle allowance for statewide elected officials, other than the governor; provides for per diem, mileage reimbursements, and housing allowance for legislators

Present law provides that members of the legislature may receive compensation, referred to as per diem, equal to the rate allowable for per diem deduction by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) for the location of the state capital during their attendance on the legislature.

Proposed law retains present law and further authorizes members of the legislature to receive the GSA rate for per diem for no more than 10 days a month when engaged in official legislative business on days not in attendance on the body.

Present law provides that in addition to per diem and all other allowances provided by law for members of the legislature, 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 \$16,800 per year.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that in addition to the per diem and salary and all other allowances provided by law for members of the legislature, each member shall be paid a mileage allowance for trips to and from the capitol during sessions of the legislature, regardless of the method of transportation, equal to the GSA standard mileage rate for business travel. Provides that such mileage allowance shall be paid for a number of trips not to exceed the number of calendar weeks, or fraction thereof, of the session.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that during the interim between sessions each member shall also be paid, for actual attendance at meetings of legislative committees of which he is a member, a mileage allowance equal to the GSA standard mileage rate for business travel for actual travel to and from the site of such meetings.

Proposed law retains present law and further authorizes members of the legislature to receive the same mileage allowance up to 10 days per month for any meeting or activity when engaging in official legislative business.

Present law provides that the mileage allowance for legislative committee meetings shall be paid only upon the filing by the member with the respective presiding officer of a voucher for each such meeting. Further provides that the legislature or either house may, by appropriate resolution, provide that no mileage allowance shall be paid in the case of particular committees or particular meetings.

Proposed law retains present law and requires the member to file a voucher for payment of the mileage allowance provided for by proposed law.

Present law provides that the salary of the speaker of the House of Representatives and president of the Senate shall be \$32,000 per year. Proposed law retains present law.

Further provides that in addition to the days for which he is authorized a per diem as provided in present law or for attendance at meetings of legislative and other committees or commissions during the interim between sessions, the speaker and president shall be paid the per diem for each day spent in the state capitol in the conduct of the business of his office, upon filing of a voucher for each such day with the clerk of the House.

Proposed law instead provides that the speaker and president shall be entitled to the per diem and all other allowances provided for by law for members of the legislature.

Present law requires that the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives be reimbursed for housing expenses when maintaining a residence in the capital city. The amount shall not exceed \$1,000 per month. Requires the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives to file an itemized statement of expenses and appropriate invoices or receipts.

Proposed law changes present law by extending the housing allowance to for reimbursement of housing expenses when maintaining a residence in the capital city to all members of the legislature. The amount shall not exceed \$1,000 per month. Proposed law requires an itemized statement but no longer requires expenses to be listed or the production of invoices or receipts. Proposed law authorizes the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to promulgate rules concerning the expenses incurred in maintaining a residence in the capital city.

Present law sets the salary of the governor at \$130,000.

Proposed law instead sets the salary of the governor at 35% of the average salary of the presidents of each public postsecondary education system for the fiscal year prior to the governor taking office.

Present law sets the salary of each statewide elected official, except the governor, at \$115,000.

Proposed law instead sets the salary of each statewide elected official, except the governor, at 30% of the average salary of the presidents of each public postsecondary education system for the fiscal year prior to the governor taking office.

Proposed law provides for statewide elected officials, except the governor, to receive a housing allowance of \$2,500 per month and a vehicle allowance of \$1,000 per month.

(Amends R.S. 24:31(A), 31.1(C)(2), 502(B), 503(B), and 506(B) and R.S. 36:10)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Authorize for all members of the legislature to be reimbursed for housing expenses in the capital city not to exceed \$1,000 per month.
2. Authorize the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to promulgate rules for the reimbursement of expenses related to maintaining a residence in the capital city.
3. Make technical changes.