

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 653 by Senator Duplessis

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, after "(C)" delete "31.5," and insert "to enact R.S. 24:31.10,"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 2

4 On page 1, delete line 3, and insert "provide relative to the office expense allowance for
5 members of"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 3

7 On page 1, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

8 "Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
9 as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution
10 of Louisiana."

11 AMENDMENT NO. 4

12 On page 1, line 7, after "(C)" delete the remainder of the line and insert "are hereby amended
13 and reenacted and R.S. 24:31.10 is hereby enacted to"

14 AMENDMENT NO. 5

15 On page 2, delete lines 14 through 29 and pages 3 through 6 and insert the following:

16 **"§31.10. Office clerical staff for members of the Senate**
17 **A. (1) In addition to the legislative assistant or assistants provided for in**
18 **R.S. 24:31.5, each member of the Senate may employ one or more office clerical**
19 **staff members, who shall be employed as unclassified state employees. The total**
20 **salary of such clerical staff shall not exceed the applicable monthly salary as**
21 **follows:**

	<u>MONTHLY</u>
22	
23	<u>SALARY</u>
24	<u>Base</u>
25	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
26	<u>First</u>
27	<u>\$ 2,083</u>
28	<u>Second</u>
29	<u>\$ 2,169</u>
30	<u>Third</u>
31	<u>\$ 2,259</u>
32	<u>Fourth</u>
33	<u>\$ 2,352</u>
34	<u>Fifth</u>
35	<u>\$ 2,450</u>
36	<u>Sixth</u>
37	<u>\$ 2,551</u>
38	<u>Seventh</u>
39	<u>\$ 2,657</u>
	<u>Eighth</u>
	<u>\$ 2,767</u>
	<u>Ninth</u>
	<u>\$ 2,881</u>
	<u>Maximum</u>
	<u>\$ 3,000</u>

35 **(2)(a) Annually, on July first, the amount for each step provided for in**
36 **Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall be adjusted when, and to the extent of,**
37 **any increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items**
38 **determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department**
39 **of Labor based on the preceding calendar year.**

1 **(b) Any senator who has the maximum salary step available to him for**
 2 **his office clerical staff shall have available a step increase of four percent per**
 3 **year for the salary available for his office clerical staff.**

4 **(3) Each senator shall determine the qualifications of his office clerical**
 5 **staff. However, no person who is a member of the family of the senator may**
 6 **serve as his office clerical staff.**

7 **(4)(a) Each office clerical staff member shall perform such duties as the**
 8 **senator may assign and shall be paid a salary fixed by the senator, provided that**
 9 **the salary for any one office clerical staff member shall not exceed the monthly**
 10 **salary for the base step plus the equivalent of one step for each year of his**
 11 **employment as a office clerical staff member, or the equivalent of one step for**
 12 **each year of the employing senator's service as a legislator, at the option of the**
 13 **employing senator.**

14 **(b) When more than one office clerical staff member is employed by a**
 15 **senator, the total salary shall not exceed the monthly salary base step plus the**
 16 **equivalent of one step for each year of employment as a office clerical staff**
 17 **member, or the equivalent of one step for each year of the employing senator's**
 18 **service as a legislator, at the option of the employing senator, by all of these**
 19 **office clerical staff members. When part-time help or contractual services are**
 20 **used, the total payments shall not exceed an amount equal to the base salary of**
 21 **a office clerical staff member, as appropriate based on the duties of the part-**
 22 **time help or contractual services.**

23 **(5) The salary of each office clerical staff member shall be paid from the**
 24 **funds of the Senate, withdrawn from the state treasury and deposited in the**
 25 **manner provided in R.S. 24:31.1, and shall be paid to each individual office**
 26 **clerical staff member whose employment and salary have been certified by the**
 27 **senator to the president of the Senate. Payment shall be by check signed by**
 28 **another member of the Senate designated by the president of the Senate and**
 29 **countersigned by the president of the Senate.**

30 **(6) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the use of contractual**
 31 **secretarial services in lieu of one or more office clerical staff, nor shall anything**
 32 **preclude two or more senators from cooperatively employing office clerical**
 33 **staff, who may be paid in excess of the salary limits prescribed above, but not**
 34 **in excess of the salary limits available to the cooperating senators.**

35 **B. Each senator who employs one or more office clerical staff as**
 36 **provided in this Section shall notify the president of the Senate in writing as to**
 37 **the name of each such office clerical staff member and the salary to be paid.**
 38 **Any change of person or salary shall be reported to the president of the Senate**
 39 **within ten days after such change. The president of the Senate shall hold such**
 40 **reports during the term of office of the senator involved.**

41 **C.(1) Each office clerical staff member employed full time and who**
 42 **either has at least one year of experience or receives at least eighty percent of**
 43 **the total compensation available to the employing senator for his office clerical**
 44 **staff, including all step increases authorized by law, may participate in the**
 45 **state's group life, health, and hospitalization insurance program and the state**
 46 **employees' retirement system. Any office clerical staff member who does not**
 47 **meet the criteria set forth in this Paragraph shall not be eligible to participate**
 48 **in these or any other benefits accruing under law to state employees.**

49 **(2) All office clerical staff shall be eligible for workers' compensation**
 50 **coverage as state employees immediately upon employment.**

51 Section 2. The cost of this Act for the provision of retirement
 52 benefits, if any, shall be funded with additional employer contributions in
 53 compliance with Article X, Section 29(E)(5)(b) of the Constitution of
 54 Louisiana.

55 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2008; if vetoed
 56 by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall
 57 become effective on July 1, 2008, or on the day following such approval by
 58 the legislature, whichever is later."