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## DIGEST

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HB 1201 Re-Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Illg

**Abstract:** Provides for the salary of the governor and other statewide elected officials; provides for a housing 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 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 in the amount of \$500 per month for expenses in connection with the holding or conduct of their office.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that the expense allowance shall be adjusted for inflation on Jan. 1 of each year by the change in the consumer price index-U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U), applied annually and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall only be made in whole increments of \$100.

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, not to 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 for reimbursement of housing expenses when maintaining a residence in the capital city to all members of the legislature, not to exceed \$1,000 per month. Requires an itemized statement but no longer requires expenses to be listed or the production of invoices or receipts. Authorizes the Legislative Budgetary Control Council to promulgate rules concerning the expenses incurred in maintaining a residence in the capital city.

Proposed law provides that the housing allowance shall be adjusted for inflation on Jan. 1 of each year by the change in the consumer price index - U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U),

applied annually and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall only be made in whole increments of \$100.

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

Proposed law increases the salary of the governor to \$174,000, adjusted each term by the amount of the personal income growth for La.

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

Proposed law increases the salary of each statewide elected official, except the governor, to \$154,000, adjusted each term by the amount of the personal growth income for La.

Proposed law provides for statewide elected officials, other than the governor, to receive an unvouchered housing allowance of \$2,500 per month.

Proposed law provides for statewide elected officials, other than the governor, to receive a monthly unvouchered expense allowance of \$1,000 per month, adjusted annually for inflation.

Effective January 10, 2028.

(Amends R.S. 24:31(A), 31.1(C)(2) and (E), 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.

The House Floor Amendments to the reengrossed bill:

1. Provide that the salary of the governor shall be \$174,000 adjusted each term by the amount of the personal income growth for La., rather than being a percentage of the average compensation of the presidents of each public postsecondary education system.
2. Provide that the salary of statewide elected officials shall be \$154,000 adjusted each term by the amount of the personal income growth for La., rather than a percentage of the average compensation of the presidents of each public postsecondary education system.

3. Establish a monthly unvouchered expense allowance, rather than a vehicle allowance, of \$1,000/month for each statewide elected official other than the governor, adjusted annually for inflation.
4. Provide that the monthly expense allowance for legislators and statewide elected officials and the housing allowance for the speaker of the House of Representatives and president of the Senate be adjusted annually for inflation.
5. Provide that the proposed law housing allowance for statewide elected officials other than the governor is unvouchered.