

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

SENATE BILL 785

4
5 By: Senators Womack, Argue
6
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO MAKE INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS IN THE
10 AMOUNTS FOR LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT, IN
11 LIEU OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS, AND EXTRA COMPENSATION
12 FOR CHAIRS AND COCHAIRS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14
15 AN ACT TO MAKE INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS IN
16 THE AMOUNTS FOR LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE
17 REIMBURSEMENT, IN LIEU OF PER DIEM
18 PAYMENTS, AND EXTRA COMPENSATION FOR
19 CHAIRS AND COCHAIRS.
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21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 10-2-212(c) is amended to read as follows:

25 (c) Except as otherwise provided by law, the maximum amount of
26 reimbursement for legislative expenses incurred by members of the General
27 Assembly shall be, at the option of each member, either five thousand eight
28 hundred twenty dollars (\$5,820) per year, six thousand five hundred forty
29 dollars (\$6,540) per year, or ~~nine thousand six hundred dollars (\$9,600)~~
30 fourteen thousand four hundred dollars (\$14,400) per year.
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32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 10-2-212(d) is amended to read as follows:

33 (d)(1) Any member of the General Assembly may elect not to receive per
34 diem and mileage payments for attending legislative sessions and for
35 attending legislative activities and in lieu thereof be reimbursed up to an
36 additional ~~six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$6,800)~~ ten thousand two



1 hundred dollars (\$10,200) per year.

2 (2) Such election shall be made in writing to the presiding officer
3 of the legislative body to which the member is elected.

4 (3)(A) The election must occur prior to the fifth day of a regular
5 session, and the election shall remain in effect until a subsequent election
6 is made at the next regular session.

7 (B) However, if the maximum amount of reimbursement is altered
8 by law, the member of the General Assembly shall make the election within
9 thirty (30) days after the law becomes effective, and the election shall
10 remain in effect until a subsequent election is made at the next regular
11 session.

12
13 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 10-2-215 is amended to read as follows:

14 10-2-215. Additional compensation for committee chairs and cochairs.

15 (a)(1) In addition to the expense allowance provided by § 10-2-212 and
16 all laws amendatory and supplemental thereto, the chair of each of the
17 standing, select, and joint committees of either house of the General
18 Assembly, the cochairs of the Legislative Council and the chairs of each
19 subcommittee of Legislative Council, the cochairs of the Legislative Joint
20 Auditing Committee and the chairs of each subcommittee of Legislative Joint
21 Auditing Committee, the Speaker Designate of the House of Representatives,
22 President Pro Tempore Designate, the House and Senate chairs of the
23 Review/PEER Subcommittee, the Personnel Subcommittee, the Claims
24 Subcommittee, and the Special Language Subcommittee of the Joint Budget
25 Committee, and the cochair of any committee of the General Assembly which
26 does not function during the legislative session shall be eligible to receive
27 an additional ~~two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400)~~ three thousand six
28 hundred dollars (\$3,600) per year and the.

29 (2) The chair of each subcommittee of each standing committee of
30 either house shall be eligible to receive an additional ~~one thousand two~~
31 ~~hundred dollars (\$1,200)~~ one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800) per
32 year. If a member of the General Assembly is eligible to receive payment
33 under this subdivision (a)(2) due to service in more than one (1) covered
34 position, the member shall be eligible to receive three thousand six hundred
35 dollars (\$3,600) per year.

36 (3) No member of the General Assembly shall receive more than

1 three thousand six hundred dollars (\$3,600) per year under this section.

2 (b) This additional allowance shall be paid from the same funds and
3 appropriation and in the same manner as provided for the allowances
4 authorized by § 10-2-212 and all laws amendatory and supplemental thereto.
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6 SECTION 4. This act shall apply retroactively to March 1, 2007.
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8 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
9 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the amount of legislative
10 expense reimbursement, in lieu of per diem payments, and compensation for
11 chairs and cochairs has not been updated in several years; that this act
12 adjusts the payments for inflation factors; and that this act is immediately
13 necessary in order to provide payments at the corrected amounts. Therefore,
14 an emergency is declared to exist and this act being necessary for the
15 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
16 on:

17 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

18 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
19 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
20 bill; or

21 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
22 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.
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