

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: November 1, 2016 (4:55pm)

LC0261

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the Legislative Council

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act revising the amount of legislator compensation and the method of calculation; increasing the additional amount that the Speaker and the President receive to \$10 a day; amending section 5-2-301, MCA; and providing an applicability date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

Section 1. Section 5-2-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-2-301. Compensation and expenses for members while in session. (1) Legislators are entitled to a an hourly salary commensurate to that of the daily rate for an employee earning \$10.33 an hour calculated by dividing the state average weekly wage, as defined in 39-51-2201, by 40 hours for the fiscal year when the regular session of the legislature in which they serve is convened under 5-2-103 for those days during which the legislature is in session. ~~The hourly rate must be adjusted by any statutorily required pay increase.~~ The president of the senate and the speaker of the house must receive an additional ~~\$5~~ \$10 a day in salary for those days during which the legislature is in session.

(2) Legislators may serve for no salary.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), legislators are entitled to

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: November 1, 2016 (4:55pm)

LC0261

a daily allowance, 7 days a week, during a legislative session, as reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending a session. Expense payments must stop when the legislature recesses for more than 3 days and resume when the legislature reconvenes.

(4) After November 15, and prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, the department of administration shall conduct a survey of the allowance for daily expenses of legislators for the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Idaho. The department shall include the average daily expense allowance for Montana legislators in determining the average daily rate for legislators. The department shall include only states with specific daily allowances in the calculation of the average. If the average daily rate is greater than the daily rate for legislators in Montana, legislators are entitled to a new daily rate for those days during which the legislature is in session. The new daily rate is the daily rate for the prior legislative session, increased by the percentage rate increase as determined by the survey, a cost-of-living increase to reflect inflation that is calculated pursuant to 2-15-122(5)(a), or 5%, whichever is less. The expense allowance is effective when the next regular session of the legislature in which the legislators serve is convened under 5-2-103.

(5) Legislators are entitled to a mileage allowance as provided in 2-18-503 for each mile of travel to the place of the holding of the session and to return to their place of residence at the conclusion of the session.

(6) In addition to the mileage allowance provided for in