

Proposed changes and decision points for Legislative Council-sponsored legislation

Prepared for the Legislative Council

June 13, 2022

Draft PD 0012: Constituent Services Allowance – each area listed is a decision point.

1. Section 1, Section 2(8), and Section (3). Proposes to put use of the funds under the Rules of Conduct for legislators and places enforcement under the Ethics Committees. Provide authority for the Ethics Committees to meet during the interim as necessary.
2. Section 2 (1), (2), and (5). Proposes to change the \$3,000 stipend to an allowance that requires submittal of receipts for reimbursement. This will assist in taxes being applied to each reimbursement only if necessary. More clearly outlines the appropriate and prohibited uses of the \$3,000 allowance.
3. Section 2 (3) and (4). Clarifies that the secondary allowance may be used for the authorized activities in subsection (1) (a) and (b). The recommendation is to not include subsections (1)(c) or (d) for information technology or education-related expenses for attending interstate and intrastate activities because the secondary allowance is based on the size of the district and was intended to reimburse legislators for direct constituent services.
4. Section 2 (7). States the current practice of retaining unexpended funds when a legislator resigns, and that a newly appointed legislator will receive a prorated amount.

Draft PD 0013: Exempt Leadership Staff

This draft proposes to clarify that the exempt leadership staff may use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, and funds to support nonelection, political caucus activity regarding legislative business in the normal course of duties incidental to their job as directed by leadership. This will provide clear authorization for the leadership staff to use state equipment for newsletters, websites, and caucus communications.