

FINAL REPORT
COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION, EXPENSES,
AND SALARIES FOR ELECTED STATE OFFICIALS

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AVAILABILITY OF MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of the meetings of the Commission
are available from the Legislative Service Bureau.

F I N A L R E P O R T
THE COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION, EXPENSES,
AND SALARIES FOR ELECTED STATE OFFICIALS

February 1989

MEMBERSHIP, CHARGE, AND MEETINGS

The Commission on Compensation, Expenses, and Salaries for Elected State Officials was established in 1972. It consists of fifteen members, five appointed by the Governor, five appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, and five appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Chapter 2A of the Iowa Code charges the Commission with a review of the compensation and expenses paid to members of the General Assembly and salaries paid to other elective state officials. The Commission is directed to review compensation, expenses, and salaries paid for comparable positions in other states, the federal government, and private enterprise and to recommend compensation and expense levels for members of the General Assembly and salary levels for elective executive officials.

The members of the Commission of Compensation, Expenses, and Salaries for Elected State Officials are:

David Fisher, Des Moines, Chairperson
Barb Bowman, Maquoketa
Mark Brandsgard, Humboldt
Paul Copenhaver, Independence
Duane Cottingham, Cedar Rapids
Joe Dalhoff, Carroll
Cecilia Fineran, Denison
Mary Hodges, Wapello
Charlotte, Hubbell, Des Moines
Leonard Jones, Manilla
Margo Keller, Blairsburg
Carl Nielsen, Altoona
Rebecca Reynolds-Knight, Bonaparte

The Commission met on December 16, 1988, and January 5, 1989. Mr. David Fisher was elected Chairperson.

INFORMATION REVIEWED BY COMMISSION

Members reviewed the following information:

1. Current and past salaries and expense reimbursement of members of the General Assembly and elected state officials in Iowa.
2. Salaries of the top three aides of these state officials.
3. Salaries of comparable officials in other states, particularly the salaries of comparable officials in states with similar populations as Iowa.
4. The 1987 Report of the Commission.
5. Salaries of appointed state department heads, administrators, and other appointed officials in Iowa.
6. Historical data on price indices.
7. Data regarding most recent salary increases for elected county officials.
8. The average annual salary of teachers for each state.
9. The salaries of the Presidents of the Board of Regents' Universities.
10. The salaries of the Des Moines City Manager, Budget and Finance Officer, and the Superintendent of the Des Moines Public Schools.
11. Fringe benefits of Iowa state employees.
12. The Senate Salary Subcommittee's recommendations.

The Commission requested information from the elected state officials regarding their own salary recommendations and invited them to make presentations to the Commission.

PRINCIPLES FOR DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS

In previous years, the Commission has adopted principles to guide it in making its recommendations and adopted these principles again for the current recommendations:

1. Commission deliberations should not be influenced by political considerations.
2. The recommendations should be based upon the offices themselves and not on the performances of present officeholders.
3. Recommendations should be made without regard to whether the Commission believes the General Assembly will accept or reject the recommendations.

Any recommendations made by the Commission can only be implemented by action of the General Assembly. Salary increases for elected executive officials could take effect July 1, 1989, but those increases recommended for members of the General Assembly, in addition to per diem increases for legislators, could not take effect until January, 1991, since members of a General Assembly cannot increase their own compensation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon the Commission's own discussions and research, the Commission on Compensation, Salaries, and Expenses for Elected State Officials makes the following recommendations:

1. The salary for the Governor should be increased by \$10,000 over two years from \$70,000 to \$77,000 on July 1, 1989, and to \$80,000 on July 1, 1990.
2. The salaries for the Secretary of State, the Treasurer of State, and Secretary of Agriculture should be increased by three percent at the beginning of each of the next two fiscal years from \$53,000 to \$54,600 on July 1, 1989, and to \$56,250 on July 1, 1990, as rounded to the nearest \$50.
3. The salary of the Attorney General should be increased by three percent at the beginning of each of the next two fiscal years from \$66,250 to \$68,250 on July 1, 1989, and to \$70,300 on July 1, 1990, as rounded to the nearest \$50.
4. The salary for the Auditor of State should be set and maintained at 90 percent of the salary of the Attorney General beginning July 1, 1989. This would result in an increase in the salary of the Auditor of State from \$53,000 to \$61,450 on July 1, 1989, and to \$63,300 on July 1, 1990, as rounded to the nearest \$50.
5. The salary of the Lieutenant Governor should be increased by three percent at the beginning of each of the next two fiscal years from \$23,900 to \$24,650 on July 1, 1989, and to \$25,400 on July 1, 1990, as rounded to the nearest \$50.
6. The salaries for members and leaders of the General Assembly should be increased by three percent for each of the next three legislative sessions effective January 1, 1991. Thus salaries should be increased nine percent over present salaries from \$16,600 to \$18,100 on January 1, 1991, for nonleaders; \$23,900 to \$26,100 on January 1, 1991, for Speaker of the House and Senate Majority Leader; and \$22,900 to \$25,000 on January 1, 1991, for the House Majority Leader and the Senate and House Minority Leaders. In addition, the salaries of the Assistant Leaders of both Houses should be increased from \$16,600 to \$19,600 on January 1, 1991.

7. The daily expense allowance for members of the General Assembly and the Lieutenant Governor should be increased from \$40 to \$47.50 (from \$25 to \$30 for Polk County members) on January 1, 1991, when the General Assembly is in session. The per diem for attendance at interim committee meetings or other official business during a legislative interim should be increased from \$40 to \$55 on January 1, 1991 (the amount for the Senate Majority Leader, Speaker of the House, and Lieutenant Governor would remain at \$60).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
SALARIES OF STATE OFFICIALS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

	<u>Salaries as of July 1, 1988</u>	<u>Recommended for July 1, 1989</u>	<u>Recommended for July 1, 1990</u>
Governor	\$70,000	\$77,000	\$80,000
Secretary of State	53,000	54,600	56,250
Treasurer of State	53,000	54,600	56,250
Secretary of Agriculture	53,000	54,600	56,250
Attorney General	66,250	68,250	70,300
Auditor of State	53,000	61,450	63,300
Lieutenant Governor	23,900	24,650	25,400

The previous increase in compensation took effect July 1, 1988 or July 1, 1987, in the case of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

EXPENSES

Governor	\$10,000	\$10,000
Governor=Elect	10,000	10,000

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

	<u>Salaries as of January 1989</u>	<u>Recommended for January 1991</u>
Speaker and Senate Majority Leader	\$23,900	\$26,100
Other Leaders (both Houses)	22,900	25,000
Assistant Leaders (both Houses)	16,600	19,600
Members	16,600	18,100

The previous increase in compensation took effect January 1, 1989.

SESSION EXPENSES

Lieutenant Governor	\$40/day*	\$47.50/day
Speaker	Same	Same
Leaders	Same	Same
Members	Same	Same
Members - Polk County	\$25/day	\$30/day

INTERIM PAYMENTS**

Lieutenant Governor	\$60/day	\$60/day
Speaker and Majority Leader	60/day	60/day
Leaders	40/day	55/day
Members	40/day	55/day

The previous increase in per diem expenses took effect January 1, 1985.

* Seven days/week for 110 days in odd-numbered years and 100 days in even-numbered years

** Plus actual expenses