

House File 125 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 125

BY JONES and PAUSTIAN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act abolishing county compensation boards.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 331.212, subsection 2, Code 2021, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *i.* Setting the compensation schedule of the
4 elected county officers.

5 Sec. 2. Section 331.321, subsection 1, paragraph 1, Code
6 2021, is amended by striking the paragraph.

7 Sec. 3. Section 331.322, subsection 6, Code 2021, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 6. ~~Review~~ Annually prepare and review the final
10 ~~compensation schedule of the county compensation board and~~
11 ~~determine the final compensation schedule~~ in accordance with
12 section 331.907.

13 Sec. 4. Section 331.322, subsection 7, Code 2021, is amended
14 by striking the subsection.

15 Sec. 5. Section 331.323, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code
16 2021, is amended to read as follows:

17 ~~e. When~~ If the duties of an officer or employee are assigned
18 to one or more elected officers, the board shall set the an
19 initial salary for each elected officer. ~~Thereafter, the~~
20 ~~salary and, thereafter, shall be determined~~ determine the
21 salary as provided in [section 331.907](#).

22 Sec. 6. Section 331.907, subsections 1, 2, 3, and 4, Code
23 2021, are amended to read as follows:

24 1. The annual compensation of the auditor, treasurer,
25 recorder, sheriff, county attorney, and supervisors shall
26 be determined as provided in [this section](#). The ~~county~~
27 ~~compensation~~ board annually shall review the compensation
28 paid to comparable officers in other counties of this state,
29 other states, private enterprise, and the federal government.
30 In setting the salary of the county sheriff, the ~~county~~
31 ~~compensation~~ board shall consider setting the sheriff's salary
32 so that it is comparable to salaries paid to professional
33 law enforcement administrators and command officers of the
34 state patrol, the division of criminal investigation of the
35 department of public safety, and city police agencies in

1 this state. The ~~county compensation~~ board shall prepare a
2 compensation schedule for the elective county officers for the
3 succeeding fiscal year. ~~A recommended compensation schedule~~
4 ~~requires a majority vote of the membership of the county~~
5 ~~compensation board.~~

6 2. At the public hearing held on the county budget as
7 provided in [section 331.434](#), the ~~county compensation~~ board
8 shall submit its ~~recommended~~ compensation schedule for the
9 next fiscal year ~~to the board of supervisors~~ for inclusion
10 in the county budget. ~~The board of supervisors shall review~~
11 ~~the recommended compensation schedule for the elected county~~
12 ~~officers and determine the final compensation schedule which~~
13 ~~shall not exceed the compensation schedule recommended by~~
14 ~~the county compensation board. In determining the final~~
15 ~~compensation schedule if the board of supervisors wishes to~~
16 ~~reduce the amount of the recommended compensation schedule,~~
17 ~~the amount of salary increase proposed for each elected~~
18 ~~county officer, except as provided in [subsection 3](#), shall be~~
19 ~~reduced an equal percentage. A copy of the final compensation~~
20 ~~schedule shall be filed with the county budget at the office~~
21 ~~of the director of the department of management. The final~~
22 ~~compensation schedule takes effect on July 1 following its~~
23 ~~adoption by the board of supervisors.~~

24 3. The ~~board of supervisors~~ may adopt a decrease in
25 compensation paid to supervisors irrespective of ~~the county~~
26 ~~compensation board's recommended compensation schedule or other~~
27 approved changes in compensation paid to other elected county
28 officers. A decrease in compensation paid to supervisors shall
29 be adopted by the ~~board of supervisors~~ no less than thirty days
30 before the county budget is certified under [section 24.17](#).

31 4. The elected county officers are also entitled to receive
32 their actual and necessary expenses incurred in performance
33 of official duties of their respective offices. The board
34 ~~of supervisors~~ may authorize the reimbursement of expenses
35 related to an educational course, seminar, or school which that

1 is attended by a county officer after the county officer is
2 elected, but prior to the county officer taking office.

3 Sec. 7. REPEAL. Section 331.905, Code 2021, is repealed.

4

EXPLANATION

5

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7

This bill eliminates county compensation boards. The bill
8 grants county boards of supervisors the responsibility of
9 annually preparing and reviewing the compensation schedule
10 for certain county officers. Under current law, a county
11 compensation board annually prepares a recommended compensation
12 schedule for certain county officials for a succeeding fiscal
13 year subject to adoption by the county board of supervisors.