

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 7, 2021

3 **AS AMENDED**

4 ENGROSSED HOUSE

5 BILL NO. 2689

6 By: Hasenbeck of the House

7 and

8 Taylor of the Senate

9 [ courts - one-time stipend for court reporters -  
10 effective date -

11 emergency ]

12 ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 106.9, as  
14 amended by Section 1, Chapter 31, O.S.L. 2019 (20 O.S. Supp. 2020,  
15 Section 106.9), is amended to read as follows:

16 Section 106.9 A. Each court reporter regularly engaged by the  
17 district court, the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims,  
18 or the Corporation Commission shall be paid a salary pursuant to the  
19 salary schedule established by the annual appropriation for the  
20 district courts and Corporation Commission and in accordance with  
21 the job description for the position to which appointed. On October  
22 1, 2021, each court reporter shall receive a one-time stipend of Two  
23 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00).

1 B. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters  
2 who are certified or licensed shorthand reporters and those acting  
3 shorthand reporters pursuant to paragraph c of Section 106.3B of  
4 this title shall be paid annually the sum of Four Hundred Dollars  
5 (\$400.00) for each year of service to the district court, the  
6 Workers' Compensation Court, the Workers' Compensation Court of  
7 Existing Claims and the Corporation Commission, with a maximum of  
8 twenty (20) years of service only to be used for the purpose of  
9 longevity, not to exceed Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) per  
10 year, payable monthly. For the purpose of payment for longevity,  
11 "years of service" is defined as all years served as a certified or  
12 licensed court reporter in the district court, the Workers'  
13 Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission after June 30,  
14 1978. Such longevity payments shall begin on July 1 of each year  
15 following completion of one (1) year's service as defined herein.

16 C. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters  
17 who are certified shorthand reporters shall be paid the following:

18 1. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per  
19 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a  
20 Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), as recognized by the State  
21 Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as  
22 a RPR, an official court reporter shall have a proficiency level in  
23 reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two  
24 hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in taking a question-and-

1 answer-type dictation, two hundred (200) words per minute in taking  
2 a jury charge and one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in  
3 taking literary material, shall pass a Written Knowledge Test with a  
4 score of at least seventy percent (70%), all as determined by an  
5 examination recognized by the Board, and shall complete thirty (30)  
6 hours of continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the  
7 date of recognition;

8       2. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per  
9 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a  
10 Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), as recognized by the State Board of  
11 Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as a RMR, an  
12 official court reporter shall have a proficiency level in reporting  
13 testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred  
14 sixty (260) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer-type  
15 dictation, two hundred forty (240) words per minute in taking a jury  
16 charge and two hundred (200) words per minute in taking literary  
17 material, shall pass a Written Knowledge Test with a score of at  
18 least seventy percent (70%), all as determined by an examination  
19 recognized by the Board, and shall complete thirty (30) hours of  
20 continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the date of  
21 recognition;

22       3. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per  
23 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a  
24 Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR), as recognized by the State Board

1 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes  
2 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle  
3 commencing at the date of recognition;

4 4. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per  
5 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a  
6 Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), as recognized by the State Board  
7 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes  
8 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle  
9 commencing at the date of recognition; or

10 5. Any official court reporter who is the holder of more than  
11 one certification shall be compensated in the additional amounts  
12 specified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this subsection for each  
13 certification up to a maximum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00)  
14 per year over and above the reporter's base salary, payable monthly.

15 D. Court reporters temporarily employed by the district court,  
16 Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, or Corporation  
17 Commission shall be compensated by the court fund of the court which  
18 they serve at a rate to be set by such court. In addition, court  
19 reporters temporarily employed pursuant to this subsection who are  
20 required by the terms of their employment to travel outside their  
21 county of residence, shall receive reimbursement for mileage  
22 actually and necessarily traveled to and from the place of  
23 attendance at a rate not to exceed the rate of reimbursement  
24 specified in the State Travel Reimbursement Act for state employees.

1 Any travel reimbursement shall be paid from the court fund of the  
2 court where the service of the temporarily employed court reporter  
3 is provided.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

5 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
6 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
10 April 7, 2021 - DO PASS AS AMENDED

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