

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 HOUSE BILL 2673

By: Wallace

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to state employee compensation;
8 providing for salary increase for certain employees;
9 specifying amount of salary increase; defining terms;
10 providing salary increase to be provided to certain
11 employee categories; providing for exclusion of
12 certain employee categories; providing for pro rata
13 reduction and prescribing methods related thereto;
14 providing for contingent effect; amending 20 O.S.
15 2011, Section 106.9, which relates to court reporter
16 salaries; clarifying language; providing for salary
17 increase after certain date; providing for
18 noncodification; providing an effective date; and
19 declaring an emergency.

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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
24 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. Effective July 1, 2019, all full-time and part-time officers
and employees, including temporary and other limited-term employees,
of the state who were employed by the state on the last working day
of June 2019 shall be awarded an annualized salary increase equal to

1 B. As used in this section, "temporary and other limited-term
2 employees" are those persons who:

- 3 1. Are not full-time or permanent employees;
- 4 2. Are not otherwise excluded by this section; and
- 5 3. Are compensated by an agency, board, commission or
6 department or other employing entity for a limited duration without
7 any subjective expectation by either the employer or the employee
8 that the employment will become permanent.

9 C. Except for those personnel specifically excluded from
10 eligibility for any increase or advancement in salary pursuant to
11 this section, the salary increase provided by this section shall be
12 applicable to:

- 13 1. Employees of county health departments;
- 14 2. Employees of a conservation district; and
- 15 3. Employees of the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute.

16 D. Employees eligible for the increase provided for in
17 subsection A of this section who are on leave without pay on July 1,
18 2019, shall receive an annualized increase, effective upon their
19 return to work, but shall not receive any increase for a period of
20 time prior to their return to work.

21 E. Employees who leave the state's service before July 1, 2019,
22 who are reinstated or reemployed in the state's service during July
23 2019 without a break in service and who are otherwise eligible for
24 the pay increase provided for in this section shall be granted such

1 raise effective immediately upon such reinstatement or reemployment.
2 As used in this subsection, "break in service" is defined as a
3 period of time in excess of thirty (30) calendar days between two
4 (2) periods of state employment.

5 F. The following officers and employees shall be ineligible for
6 a pay increase pursuant to this section and nothing, except as
7 otherwise provided by Section 840-2.17 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma
8 Statutes, shall be construed to authorize any increase or
9 advancement of the salaries of:

- 10 1. Any elected official;
- 11 2. Any cabinet secretary whose salary is governed by Section
12 10.5 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
- 13 3. Any agency director;
- 14 4. Any justice or judge whose salary is governed by the
15 provisions of Title 85A of the Oklahoma Statutes or whose
16 compensation is set by the Board on Judicial Compensation pursuant
17 to Section 3.4 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
- 18 5. Any district attorney whose salary is governed by Section
19 215.30 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
- 20 6. Officers and employees of institutions under the
21 administrative authority of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
22 Education, except for officers and employees of the George Nigh
23 Rehabilitation Institute;

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1 7. Persons employed pursuant to Section 2241 of Title 74 of the
2 Oklahoma Statutes;

3 8. Persons employed pursuant to Section 1.6a of Title 53 of the
4 Oklahoma Statutes;

5 9. Persons who are employed or under contract pursuant to
6 subsection B of Section 1419 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
7 and

8 10. The Adjutant General and Assistant Adjutants General
9 pursuant to Section 27 of Title 44 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

10 G. No salary increase pursuant to this section shall be made
11 that exceeds a salary limitation provided in an agency's annual
12 appropriation bill or salary limits set by statute. Classified
13 employees eligible for the salary increase provided for in this
14 section shall receive such increase even though it causes the
15 employee's salary to exceed the maximum for the employee's pay band.

16 H. With respect to any employee who is not a full-time
17 employee, the salary increase amount otherwise authorized by
18 subsection A of this section shall be prorated using a methodology
19 applicable to the employee's compensation, weeks worked, months
20 worked, hours worked or similar method.

21 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 106.9, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 106.9 A. ~~Until October 1, 2006, the salaries of all~~
24 ~~court reporters regularly engaged by the district court, the~~

1 ~~Workers' Compensation Court, or the Corporation Commission shall be~~
2 ~~paid by the state, except as otherwise provided in this section.~~

3 ~~Full-time court reporters regularly engaged by the district court,~~
4 ~~the Workers' Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission who~~
5 ~~are certified shorthand reporters shall be paid Thirty-five Thousand~~
6 ~~Six Hundred Dollars (\$35,600.00) per year, payable monthly.~~

7 Effective October 1, 2006, the salaries of all court reporters
8 regularly engaged by the district court, the Workers' Compensation
9 Court, or the Corporation Commission shall be paid by the state,
10 except as otherwise provided in this section. Full-time court
11 reporters regularly engaged by the district court, the Workers'
12 Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission who are certified
13 shorthand reporters shall be paid as follows:

14 1. Beginning October 1, 2006, through June 30, 2019, Thirty-
15 nine Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$39,160.00) per year,
16 payable monthly, and

17 2. Beginning July 1, 2019, _____ per year,
18 payable monthly.

19 B. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters
20 who are certified or licensed shorthand reporters and those acting
21 shorthand reporters pursuant to paragraph c of Section 106.3B of
22 this title shall be paid annually the sum of Four Hundred Dollars
23 (\$400.00) for each year of service to the district court, the
24 Workers' Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission, with a

1 maximum of twenty (20) years of service only to be used for the
2 purpose of longevity, not to exceed Eight Thousand Dollars
3 (\$8,000.00) per year, payable monthly. For the purpose of payment
4 for longevity, "years of service" is defined as all years served as
5 a certified or licensed court reporter in the district court, the
6 Workers' Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission after
7 June 30, 1978. Such longevity payments shall begin on July 1 of
8 each year following completion of one (1) year's service as defined
9 herein.

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

12 1. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
13 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
14 Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), as recognized by the State
15 Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as
16 a RPR, an official court reporter shall have a proficiency level in
17 reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two
18 hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in taking a question-and-
19 answer-type dictation, two hundred (200) words per minute in taking
20 a jury charge and one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in
21 taking literary material, shall pass a Written Knowledge Test with a
22 score of at least seventy percent (70%), all as determined by an
23 examination recognized by the Board, and shall complete thirty (30)

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1 hours of continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the
2 date of recognition;

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

17 3. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
18 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
19 Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR), as recognized by the State Board
20 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes
21 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle
22 commencing at the date of recognition;

23 4. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
24 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a

1 Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), as recognized by the State Board
2 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes
3 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle
4 commencing at the date of recognition; or

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

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

22 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

23 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
24 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby

1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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