

SB 1566 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 02/22/22

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 3-2-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Manning Jr, Taylor, Wagner

Nays: 2 - Girod, Knopp

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Prepared By: Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes annual salary for members of the Legislative Assembly equal to annual average wage for all covered employment in Oregon as published for prior calendar year by the Oregon Employment Department. Directs salary to be adjusted to conform to the average only once every two years. Authorizes child care reimbursement for members who have one or more children or dependents under age 13, of up to \$1,000 per month, for January through June of odd-numbered years and January through March of even-numbered years. Applies annual cost of living adjustment to monthly interim expense allowance. Applies to pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Allowance of a living wage
- Necessary to cover expenses incurred by serving in office
- Whether public officials should vote to increase their pay
- Movement towards a full-time legislature

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Establishes annual salary for members of Legislative Assembly equal to annual average wage for all covered employment in Oregon, as published for the prior calendar year by the Oregon Employment Department. Authorizes child care reimbursement for members who have one or more children or dependents under age 13, of up to \$1,000 per month, for January through June of odd-numbered years and January through March of even-numbered years.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute sets legislator pay at an annual salary that equals one step below the maximum step for the Salary Range 1 in the Management Service Compensation Plan in the executive department, which is currently \$33,852 per year.

Senate Bill 1566 A changes the annual legislator pay to the annual average wage for all covered employment in Oregon for the prior year, beginning on January 1, 2023; allows for a reimbursement of up to \$1,000 per month for child care expenses; and allows for annual cost of living adjustment to the interim expense allowance.