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H.678

Introduced by Representatives Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Rogers of Waterville, Burke of Brattleboro, Christie of Hartford, Colburn of Burlington, Donnally of Hyde Park, Goldman of Rockingham, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Nicoll of Ludlow, Seymour of Sutton, Sibilias of Dover, Surprenant of Barnard, Vyhovsky of Essex, White of Bethel, and Whitman of Bennington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Legislature; legislator compensation; legislator benefits; health insurance

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to provide compensation to members of the General Assembly during adjournment and to permit legislators to participate in the State employee health insurance plan.

An act relating to legislator compensation and benefits

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 * * * Adjournment Compensation * * *

3 Sec. 1. 32 V.S.A. § 1052 is amended to read:

4 § 1052. MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; COMPENSATION
5 AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

6 (a)(1) Session compensation. Each member of the General Assembly,
7 other than the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the
8 Senate, is entitled to a weekly salary of \$589.00 for the 2005 Biennial Session
9 and thereafter, provided that, beginning on January 1, 2007, the weekly
10 compensation shall be adjusted annually thereafter by the cost of living
11 adjustment negotiated for State employees under the most recent collective
12 bargaining agreement, except that, beginning on July 1, 2021 and annually
13 thereafter on January 1, the weekly compensation shall be adjusted consistent
14 with the compensation increases provided to other constitutional officers. The
15 salary of members shall be paid in biweekly installments.

16 (2) Special session compensation. During a special session, a member is
17 entitled to an amount equal to one-fifth of the annually adjusted weekly
18 compensation set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection, rounded up to the
19 nearest dollar, for each day of a special session on which the House of which
20 he or she is a member shall sit.

1 employees, and deputy sheriffs paid by the State of Vermont pursuant to
2 24 V.S.A. § 290(b). The term “employees” shall not include ~~members of the~~
3 ~~General Assembly as such~~, any person rendering service on a retainer or fee
4 basis, members of boards or commissions, or persons ~~other than employees of~~
5 ~~the Vermont Historical Society, the Vermont Film Corporation, the Vermont~~
6 ~~State Employees’ Credit Union, Vermont State Employees’ Association, and~~
7 ~~the Vermont Council on the Arts~~, whose compensation for service is not paid
8 from the State Treasury, or any elected or appointed official ~~unless the~~ except
9 as specifically provided pursuant to this subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i). The term
10 “employees” shall include employees of the Vermont Historical Society, the
11 Vermont Film Corporation, the Vermont State Employees’ Credit Union, the
12 Vermont State Employees’ Association, the Vermont Council on the Arts, and
13 any elected or appointed official who is actively engaged in and devoting
14 substantially full-time to the conduct of the business of his or her the official’s
15 public office. The term “employees” also includes members of the General
16 Assembly as provided pursuant to subdivision (iv) of this subdivision
17 (a)(2)(A).

18 * * *

19 (iv) For purposes of group hospital-surgical-medical expense
20 insurance only, the term “employees” includes members of the General
21 Assembly.

