

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1362

Introduced by

Representatives Maragos, Koppelman, Rose

Senators Kelsh, Lee

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 11-10-10 and 11-10-10.1 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the salaries of elected county officers; and to provide an effective
3 date.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 11-10-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **11-10-10. Salaries of elected county officers.**

8 1. The salary of ~~the~~ an elected county auditor, county treasurer, county
9 superintendent of schools, register of deeds, clerk of district court, and sheriff must
10 be regulated by the population in the respective counties according to the last
11 preceding official federal census from and after the date when the official report of
12 ~~such the~~ census has been published ~~by the director of the census or such other~~
13 ~~official as may be charged with the duty of making such official publication.~~

14 Notwithstanding any decreases in population, the salaries paid county officers as
15 of July 1, 1981, reduced by any discretionary salary increase authorized by the
16 county commissioners pursuant to this section, must be at least the minimum
17 amount payable for that office when filled on a full-time basis in the future.

18 2. ~~The~~ An elected county treasurer, county superintendent of schools, register of
19 deeds, county auditor, and clerk of district court ~~each shall receive~~ are entitled to
20 the following minimum annual salary, payable monthly, for official services
21 rendered:

22 a. ~~Seventeen~~ Nineteen thousand dollars in counties having a population of less
23 than eight thousand.

1 b. ~~Seventeen~~ Nineteen thousand five hundred dollars in counties having a
2 population of or exceeding eight thousand plus additional compensation of
3 one hundred dollars per year for each one thousand additional population or
4 major fraction thereof over eight thousand. However, in counties where the
5 population consists of more than twenty-five percent Indians who have not
6 severed tribal relations, the county commissioners may adjust the salaries
7 provided for ~~herein~~ in this subsection within the limitations contained in this
8 subdivision.

9 The compensation for the clerk of a district court which is funded by the state
10 pursuant to section 11-17-11 must be set by the supreme court as a part of the
11 judicial branch personnel system.

12 3. ~~Repealed by S.L. 1975, ch. 87, § 2.~~

13 4. The county superintendent of schools is entitled to receive for any trips necessarily
14 made within the county in the performance of school district reorganization duties
15 the same mileage received under section 11-10-15. The board of county
16 commissioners of any county may, by resolution, increase the salary of any
17 full-time county official provided in this section, if, in the judgment of such board, by
18 reason of duties performed, the official merits the increase. The salary of a county
19 official may not be reduced during the official's term of office. Any county official
20 performing duties on less than a full-time basis may be paid a reduced salary set
21 by the board of county commissioners. ~~In the event~~ If the county has for its
22 employees, a group insurance program for hospital benefits, medical benefits, or
23 life insurance, or a group retirement program, financed in part or entirely by the
24 county, ~~such~~ the benefits may be in addition to the salaries payable to county
25 officials.

26 ~~5.~~ 4. Each county commissioner may receive an annual salary or per diem as provided
27 by resolution of the board, ~~with a maximum of ten thousand dollars in counties with~~
28 ~~a population in excess of ten thousand and a maximum of nine thousand three~~
29 ~~hundred dollars in counties with a population of ten thousand or less. In addition,~~
30 ~~there must be an allowance for meals and lodging expenses at the same rate and~~
31 ~~under the same conditions as provided for state officials and employees. The~~

1 ~~allowance for travel expenses must be at the same rate as provided by section~~
2 ~~11-10-15, and must be evidenced by a subvoucher or receipt as provided by~~
3 ~~section 21-05-01. As used in this section, the words "official business" include~~
4 ~~statewide meetings of the North Dakota county commissioners association.~~

5 ~~If a board shall resolve to pay an annual salary pursuant to this subsection, it~~
6 ~~must be paid in monthly installments.~~

7 6. ~~5. Sheriffs shall receive~~ An elected sheriff is entitled to the following minimum annual
8 salary, payable monthly, for official services rendered:

9 a. ~~Nineteen~~ Twenty-one thousand nine hundred dollars in counties having a
10 population with less than eight thousand.

11 b. ~~Twenty~~ Twenty-two thousand nine hundred dollars in counties having a
12 population exceeding eight thousand plus additional compensation of one
13 hundred dollars per year for each one thousand additional population or major
14 fraction thereof over eight thousand. However, in counties where the
15 population consists of more than twenty-five percent Indians who have not
16 severed tribal relations, the county commissioners may adjust the salaries
17 provided for ~~herein~~ in this subsection within the limitations contained in this
18 subdivision.

19 7. ~~6. State's attorneys~~ An elected state's attorney in counties having a population
20 exceeding thirty-five thousand, or in other counties where the board of county
21 commissioners has determined by resolution that the state's attorney ~~shall~~ must be
22 full time and ~~shall~~ may not be an attorney or counsel for any party except the state
23 or county, ~~shall~~ is entitled to receive ~~forty-five~~ a minimum salary of forty-seven
24 thousand dollars, ~~but the county may increase that amount up to the same salary~~
25 ~~as a county court judge.~~ State's attorneys not considered full time ~~shall receive~~
26 are entitled to an annual salary of at least forty-five percent of the minimum salary
27 paid to a full-time state's attorney.

28 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 11-10-10.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
29 amended and reenacted as follows:

30 **11-10-10.1. Legislative intent in regard to county salaries.** It is the intent of the
31 legislative assembly that the several boards of county commissioners shall exercise the

1 responsibility of setting the salaries of county officials within the limits imposed by section
2 11-10-10. A board of county commissioners, in making a decision in regard to a county
3 official's salary, should take into account the financial status of the county, the responsibilities of
4 the position, and any ~~other~~ factors ~~which~~ that the board ~~may deem~~ deems relevant in arriving
5 at ~~such~~ the decision.

6 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act becomes effective on January 1, 2000.