

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

H.B 1110
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40607-LR-144C (03/07)

Short Title: Match State Emp. Per Diem to Fed. Rates. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hager and L. Hall (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MATCH STATE OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE PER DIEM AND TRAVEL RATES TO THE RATES SET BY THE GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Effective July 1, 2016, G.S. 138-6 reads as rewritten:

"§ 138-6. **Travel allowances of State officers and employees.**

(a) Travel on official business by the officers and employees of State departments, institutions and agencies which operate from funds deposited with the State Treasurer shall be reimbursed at the following rates:

(1) For transportation by privately owned automobile, the business standard mileage rate ~~set-noticed~~ by the Internal Revenue Service in IR-2015-137, December 17, 2015, per mile of travel and the actual cost of tolls paid. ~~Any other law which sets a mileage rate by referring to the rate set herein, instead establishes a rate of twenty five cents (25¢) per mile.~~ No reimbursement shall be made for the use of a personal car in commuting from an employee's home to his duty station in connection with regularly scheduled work hours.

(2) For bus, railroad, Pullman, or other conveyance, actual fare.

(3) For expenses incurred for subsistence, ~~payment of eighty one dollars (\$81.00) per day when traveling in-state or ninety three dollars (\$93.00) per day when traveling out-of-state.~~ a subsistence allowance for meals and lodging at a daily rate equal to the maximum per diem rate for federal employees traveling to Raleigh, North Carolina, as set out by the General Services Administration for the Continental United States for the 2015 federal fiscal year and noticed at 80 Federal Register 52753-04 (September 1, 2015). Payment of sales tax, lodging tax, local tax, or service fees applied to the cost of lodging are to be paid in addition to the daily subsistence amount. The employee may exceed the part of the ceiling allocated for lodging without approval for overexpenditure provided that the total lodging and food reimbursement does not exceed the maximum provided by this subdivision. When travel involves less than a full day (24-hour period), a reasonable prorated amount shall be paid in accordance with regulations and criteria which shall be promulgated and published by the Director of the Budget. Reimbursement to State employees for lunches eaten while on official business may be made only in the following circumstances:

a. When an overnight stay is required reimbursement is allowed while an employee is in travel status;



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- 1 b. When the cost of the lunch is included as part of a registration fee for a
2 formal congress, conference, assembly, or convocation, by whatever
3 name called. Such assembly must involve the active participation of
4 persons other than the employees of a single State department,
5 institution, or agency and must be necessary for conducting official
6 State business; or
- 7 c. When the State employee is a member of, or providing staff assistance
8 to, a State board, commission, committee, or council which operates
9 from funds deposited with the State Treasurer, and the lunch is
10 preplanned as part of the meeting for the entire board, commission,
11 committee, or council.
- 12 (4) For convention registration fees not to exceed the actual amount expended as
13 shown by a valid receipt or invoice.
- 14 (5) Effective July 1, 2001, and effective July 1 of each odd-numbered year
15 thereafter, the Director of the Budget shall revise the amounts of payment of
16 subsistence per day when traveling in-State and out-of-state by an amount equal
17 to the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban
18 Consumers for the most recent 24-month period.
- 19 (b) Out-of-state travel on official business by the officers and employees of State
20 departments, institutions, and agencies which operate from funds deposited with the State
21 Treasurer shall be reimbursed only upon authorization obtained in the manner prescribed by the
22 Director of the Budget.
- 23 (c) Reimbursement of actual costs of overnight lodging, whether in-state or out-of-state,
24 must be documented by a receipt of actual lodging expenses from a commercial establishment.
25 This documentation shall be attached to the reimbursement request. All reimbursement requests
26 shall be filed for approval and payment within 30 days after the travel period for which the
27 reimbursement is being requested."
- 28 **SECTION 2.** Effective upon the convening of the 2017 General Assembly,
29 G.S. 120-3.1(a) reads as rewritten:
- 30 "(a) In addition to compensation for their services, members of the General Assembly shall
31 be paid the following allowances:
- 32 (1) A weekly travel allowance for each week or fraction thereof that the General
33 Assembly is in regular or extra session. The amount of the weekly travel
34 allowance shall be calculated for each member by multiplying the actual
35 round-trip mileage from that member's home to the City of Raleigh by the rate
36 per mile which is the business standard mileage rate ~~set noticed~~ by the Internal
37 Revenue Service in ~~Rev. Proc. 93-51, December 27, 1993.~~ IR-2015-137,
38 December 17, 2015.
- 39 (2) A travel allowance at the rate which is the business standard mileage rate ~~set~~
40 noticed by the Internal Revenue Service in ~~Rev. Proc. 93-51, December 27,~~
41 1993, IR-2015-137, December 17, 2015, whenever the member travels, whether
42 in or out of session, as a representative of the General Assembly or of its
43 committees or commissions, with the approval of the Legislative Services
44 Commission.
- 45 (3) A subsistence allowance for meals and lodging at a daily rate equal to the
46 maximum per diem rate for federal employees traveling to Raleigh, North
47 Carolina, as set out at ~~58 Federal Register 67959 (December 22, 1993),~~ by the
48 General Services Administration for the Continental United States for the 2015
49 federal fiscal year and noticed at 80 Federal Register 52753-04 (September 1,
50 2015) while the General Assembly is in session and, except as otherwise
51 provided in this subdivision, while the General Assembly is not in session

1 when, with the approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives in the
2 case of Representatives or the President Pro Tempore of the Senate in case of
3 Senators, the member is:

- 4 a. Traveling as a representative of the General Assembly or of its
5 committees or commissions, or
6 b. Otherwise in the service of the State.

7 A member who is authorized to travel, whether in or out of session,
8 within the United States outside North Carolina, may elect to receive, in lieu of
9 the amount provided in the preceding paragraph, a subsistence allowance of
10 ~~twenty six dollars (\$26.00) a day~~ for meals, plus actual expenses for lodging
11 when evidenced by a receipt satisfactory to the Legislative Services Officer, ~~the~~
12 ~~latter~~ not to exceed the maximum per diem rate for federal employees traveling
13 to the same place, as set out at ~~58 Federal Register 67950-67964 (December 22,~~
14 ~~1993) and at 59 Federal Register 23702-23709 (May 6, 1994).~~ by the General
15 Services Administration for the Continental United States for the 2015 federal
16 fiscal year and noticed at 80 Federal Register 52753-04 (September 1, 2015).

- 17 (4) A member may be reimbursed for registration fees as permitted by the
18 Legislative Services Commission."

19 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.