

SHORT TITLE: Courts; providing for incentive raises for certain court reporters; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 45th Legislature (1996)

SENATE BILL NO. 894

By: Smith

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 1991, Section 106.9, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (20 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 106.9), which relates to salaries of court reporters; clarifying statutory reference; modifying authority for certain certifications; providing for certain incentive raises for acquisition of certain certifications; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 1991, Section 106.9, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 328, O.S.L. 1995 (20 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 106.9), is amended to read as follows:

Section 106.9 A. The salaries of all court reporters shall be paid by the state, except as otherwise herein provided ~~otherwise herein~~. Full-time official court reporters, regularly engaged by the courts including the Workers' Compensation Court and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, who are certified shorthand reporters shall be paid Twenty-five Thousand Three Hundred Eight Dollars (\$25,308.00) per annum, payable monthly. Full-time official court reporters, regularly engaged by the courts including the Workers' Compensation Court and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, who are licensed shorthand reporters shall be paid Twenty Thousand

Five Hundred Seventy-four Dollars (\$20,574.00) per annum, payable monthly. Acting official reporters who are neither licensed nor certified, and who are acting under a temporary certificate shall be paid Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$15,995.00) per annum, payable monthly.

B. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters who are certified or licensed shorthand reporters and those acting shorthand reporters ~~referenced at Title 20,~~ pursuant to paragraph c of Section 106.3B ~~106.3B~~ of this title shall be paid the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) per annum for each year of service in the district court, including the Workers' Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission, with a maximum of nine (9) years of service only to be used for the purpose of longevity, not to exceed Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$3,600.00) payable monthly. For the purpose of payment for longevity, "Years of Service" is defined as all years served as a certified or licensed court reporter in the district courts of Oklahoma including the Workers' Compensation Court and Oklahoma Corporation Commission after June 30, 1978. Such longevity payments shall begin on July 1 of each year following completion of one (1) year's service as defined herein.

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

1. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per annum to any official court reporter who is a holder of a certificate of proficiency, as certified by the State Board of Examiners of Official Shorthand Reporters. To qualify for a certificate of proficiency, an official court reporter must have a proficiency level in reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer-type dictation, two hundred (200) words per minute in taking a jury charge and one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in taking literary material, all as determined by

an examination administered by the Board or recognized by the Board-;

2. The sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) per annum to any official court reporter who is a ~~holder of a certificate of merit~~ Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), as certified by the State Board of Examiners of Official Shorthand Reporters. To qualify ~~for~~ as a certificate of merit Registered Merit Reporter, an official court reporter must have a proficiency level in reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred sixty (260) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer-type dictation, two hundred forty (240) words per minute in taking a jury charge and two hundred (200) words per minute in taking literary material, all as determined by an examination administered by the Board or recognized by the Board-;

3. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per annum to any official court reporter who is a Registered Diplomate Reporter (RDR), as certified by the State Board of Examiners of Official Shorthand Reporters;

4. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per annum to any official court reporter who is a Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), as certified by the State Board of Examiners of Official Shorthand Reporters; and

5. Any official court reporter who is the holder of ~~both the certificate of proficiency and the certificate of merit~~ more than one certification shall be compensated ~~only in the~~ an additional amount ~~of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00)~~ not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) per annum over and above ~~his~~ the reporter's base salary, payable monthly.

D. Court reporters temporarily employed by the district court, Workers' Compensation Court or Corporation Commission shall be compensated by the court fund of the court which they serve at the rate of Fifty-four Dollars (\$54.00) per day. In addition, court

reporters temporarily employed pursuant to this subsection who are required by the terms of their employment to travel outside their county of residence, shall receive reimbursement for mileage actually and necessarily traveled to and from the place of attendance at a rate not to exceed the rate of reimbursement specified in the State Travel Reimbursement Act for state employees. Such travel reimbursement shall be paid from the court fund of the court where the service of the temporarily employed court reporter is provided.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1996.

45-2-1594

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