STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 3157 By: Askins

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 1991, Section 106.9, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 57, O.S.L. 1996 (20 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 106.9), which relates to court reporters; clarifying language; 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 1, Chapter 57, O.S.L. 1996 (20 O.S. Supp. 1997, 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 provided ~~otherwise herein~~ in this section. Full-time official court reporters, regularly engaged by the Workers' Compensation Court and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, who are certified shorthand reporters shall be paid Twenty-six Thousand Five Hundred Eight Dollars ($26,508.00) per annum, payable monthly. Full-time official court reporters, regularly engaged by the Workers' Compensation Court and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, who are licensed shorthand reporters shall be paid Twenty-one Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-

four Dollars ($21,774.00) per annum, payable monthly. Acting official reporters who are neither licensed nor certified, and who are acting under a temporary certificate shall be paid Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Ninety-five Dollars ($17,195.00) 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 paragraph c of Section 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, as certified by the State Board of Examiners of Official Shorthand Reporters. To qualify for a certificate of merit, 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. Any official court reporter who is the holder of both the certificate of proficiency and the certificate of merit shall be compensated only in the additional amount of Three Thousand Dollars ($3,000.00) per annum over and above his 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, 1998.

46-2-8425 SD