

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

HOUSE BILL 4118

By: Hasenbeck

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.9, which relates to court reporter salaries; modifying method of salary appropriation for court reporters; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.9, is amended to read as follows:

Section 106.9 A. Each court reporter regularly engaged by the district court, the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, or the Corporation Commission shall be paid a salary pursuant to the salary schedule established by the annual appropriation for the district courts and Corporation Commission and in accordance with the job description for the position to which appointed. ~~On October 1, 2021, each court reporter shall receive a one-time stipend of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00)~~ On July 1, 2022, each court reporter shall receive an increase in salary of eight percent (8%).

1 B. In addition to their base salaries, official court reporters
2 who are certified or licensed shorthand reporters and those acting
3 shorthand reporters pursuant to paragraph c of Section 106.3B of
4 this title shall be paid annually the sum of Four Hundred Dollars
5 (\$400.00) for each year of service to the district court, the
6 Workers' Compensation Court, the Workers' Compensation Court of
7 Existing Claims and the Corporation Commission, with a maximum of
8 twenty (20) years of service only to be used for the purpose of
9 longevity, not to exceed Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) per
10 year, payable monthly. For the purpose of payment for longevity,
11 "years of service" is defined as all years served as a certified or
12 licensed court reporter in the district court, the Workers'
13 Compensation Court and the Corporation Commission after June 30,
14 1978. Such longevity payments shall begin on July 1 of each year
15 following completion of one (1) year's service as defined herein.

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

18 1. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
19 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
20 Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), as recognized by the State
21 Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as
22 a RPR, an official court reporter shall have a proficiency level in
23 reporting testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two
24 hundred twenty-five (225) words per minute in taking a question-and-

1 answer-type dictation, two hundred (200) words per minute in taking
2 a jury charge and one hundred eighty (180) words per minute in
3 taking literary material, shall pass a Written Knowledge Test with a
4 score of at least seventy percent (70%), all as determined by an
5 examination recognized by the Board, and shall complete thirty (30)
6 hours of continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the
7 date of recognition;

8 2. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
9 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
10 Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), as recognized by the State Board of
11 Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as a RMR, an
12 official court reporter shall have a proficiency level in reporting
13 testimony and proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred
14 sixty (260) words per minute in taking a question-and-answer-type
15 dictation, two hundred forty (240) words per minute in taking a jury
16 charge and two hundred (200) words per minute in taking literary
17 material, shall pass a Written Knowledge Test with a score of at
18 least seventy percent (70%), all as determined by an examination
19 recognized by the Board, and shall complete thirty (30) hours of
20 continuing education per three-year cycle commencing at the date of
21 recognition;

22 3. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
23 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
24 Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR), as recognized by the State Board

1 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes
2 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle
3 commencing at the date of recognition;

4 4. The sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) per
5 year, payable monthly, to any official court reporter who is a
6 Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), as recognized by the State Board
7 of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, and who completes
8 thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year cycle
9 commencing at the date of recognition; or

10 5. Any official court reporter who is the holder of more than
11 one certification shall be compensated in the additional amounts
12 specified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this subsection for each
13 certification up to a maximum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00)
14 per year over and above the reporter's base salary, payable monthly.

15 D. Court reporters temporarily employed by the district court,
16 Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, or Corporation
17 Commission shall be compensated by the court fund of the court which
18 they serve at a rate to be set by such court. In addition, court
19 reporters temporarily employed pursuant to this subsection who are
20 required by the terms of their employment to travel outside their
21 county of residence shall receive reimbursement for mileage actually
22 and necessarily traveled to and from the place of attendance at a
23 rate not to exceed the rate of reimbursement specified in the State
24 Travel Reimbursement Act for state employees. Any travel

1 reimbursement shall be paid from the court fund of the court where
2 the service of the temporarily employed court reporter is provided.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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9 58-2-9186 AQH 12/13/21