

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1396

By: Hasenbeck of the House

3 and

4 Floyd of the Senate

5
6 An Act relating to courts; amending 20 O.S. 2021,
7 Section 106.9, which relates to salaries of court
8 reporters; increasing court reporter salaries;
9 providing a maximum salary increase; and providing an
10 effective date.

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

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 106.9, as
13 amended by Section 1, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2022 (20 O.S. Supp. 2022,
14 Section 106.9), is amended to read as follows:

15 Section 106.9 A. Each court reporter regularly engaged by the
16 district court, the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims,
17 or the Corporation Commission shall be paid a salary pursuant to the
18 salary schedule established by the annual appropriation for the
19 district courts and Corporation Commission and in accordance with
20 the job description for the position to which appointed. For fiscal
21 year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter, each court reporter shall
22 receive an annual salary of Fifty-three Thousand Dollars
23 (\$53,000.00).

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)~~ Two
19 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year, payable monthly, to any
20 official court reporter who is a Registered Professional Reporter
21 (RPR), as recognized by the State Board of Examiners of Certified
22 Shorthand Reporters. To qualify as a RPR, an official court
23 reporter shall have a proficiency level in reporting testimony and
24 proceedings of a speed of not less than two hundred twenty-five

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

9 2. The sum of ~~One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00)~~ Two
10 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year, payable monthly, to any
11 official court reporter who is a Registered Merit Reporter (RMR), as
12 recognized by the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand
13 Reporters. To qualify as a RMR, an official court reporter shall
14 have a proficiency level in reporting testimony and proceedings of a
15 speed of not less than two hundred sixty (260) words per minute in
16 taking a question-and-answer-type dictation, two hundred forty (240)
17 words per minute in taking a jury charge and two hundred (200) words
18 per minute in taking literary material, shall pass a Written
19 Knowledge Test with a score of at least seventy percent (70%), all
20 as determined by an examination recognized by the Board, and shall
21 complete thirty (30) hours of continuing education per three-year
22 cycle commencing at the date of recognition;

23 3. The sum of ~~One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00)~~ Two
24 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year, payable monthly, to any

1 official court reporter who is a Registered Diplomat Reporter (RDR),
2 as recognized by the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand
3 Reporters, and who completes thirty (30) hours of continuing
4 education per three-year cycle commencing at the date of
5 recognition;

6 4. The sum of ~~One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00)~~ Two
7 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year, payable monthly, to any
8 official court reporter who is a Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR),
9 as recognized by the State Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand
10 Reporters, and who completes thirty (30) hours of continuing
11 education per three-year cycle commencing at the date of
12 recognition; or

13 5. Any official court reporter who is the holder of more than
14 one certification shall be compensated in the additional amounts
15 specified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this subsection for each
16 certification up to a maximum of ~~Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00)~~
17 Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) per year over and above the
18 reporter's base salary, payable monthly.

19 D. Court reporters temporarily employed by the district court,
20 Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims, or Corporation
21 Commission shall be compensated by the court fund of the court which
22 they serve at a rate to be set by such court. In addition, court
23 reporters temporarily employed pursuant to this subsection who are
24 required by the terms of their employment to travel outside their

1 county of residence shall receive reimbursement for mileage actually
2 and necessarily traveled to and from the place of attendance at a
3 rate not to exceed the rate of reimbursement specified in the State
4 Travel Reimbursement Act for state employees. Any travel
5 reimbursement shall be paid from the court fund of the court where
6 the service of the temporarily employed court reporter is provided.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 106.9A-1 of Title 20, unless
9 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. The Administrative Director of the Courts may use available
11 funds for the acquisition and proper maintenance of court reporter
12 equipment including software.

13 B. Any equipment provided to a court reporter pursuant to the
14 provisions of this section which is lost shall be replaced not later
15 than thirty (30) days after the loss occurs and no state funds shall
16 be used for such replacement.

17 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 22nd day of March, 2023.

2
3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

5 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2023.

6
7
8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the Senate