

CHAPTER NO. 955

SENATE BILL NO. 3277

By Kyle, Ford

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3189

By Kernell, Kent, Briley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to salaries and expenses of members of the general assembly.

WHEREAS, the salary of members of the general assembly has not increased for sixteen years; and

WHEREAS, the state needs to encourage young people to get involved in civic and political life; and

WHEREAS, the current 1988 salary of state legislators is detrimental to the continuance of a citizen legislature; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature has foregone salary increases to show leadership because of past deficits; and

WHEREAS, the average Tennessean needs greater compensation to be able to serve as a state legislator; and

WHEREAS, populations of various districts have increased and so has time and effort in serving these districts; especially in those districts within which members travel great distances; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee demand state legislators be responsive to their needs which includes spending time researching and dealing with constituent problems and also growing issues such as effect of federal programs and economic change; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-107, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(c) For the fiscal year beginning in 2005, and for each subsequent fiscal year, the base salary fixed in subsection (a)(1) shall be adjusted to reflect the average percentage pay increase provided for state employees by the general appropriations act. However, any adjustments occurring during a term of the general assembly shall not take effect until the election of the next general assembly. On or before November 1 of each year, the comptroller of the treasury shall certify to the office of legislative administration such average increase in state employee's compensation during that fiscal year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-106(f), is amended by deleting the language "five hundred twenty-five dollars (\$525)" and substituting instead the language "one thousand dollars (\$1,000)".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect November 2, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 20, 2004


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 15th day of June 2004


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR