



LEGISLATIVE  
ADMINISTRATION

Legislative Administrator

**To:** All Legislators  
**From:** Dave Henderson  
**Date:** September 25, 2001  
**Subject:** Member Interim Expense Allowance

The Legislative Administration Committee has approved an increase in the interim expense allowance you receive each month when the legislature is not in session. The change is effective October 1, 2001, and will be reflected in the paycheck you receive on November 1, 2001, and thereafter.

Member expense allowances are established in ORS 171.072 (4) and (8):

“(4) A member of the Legislative Assembly shall receive, as an allowance for expenses incurred in the performance of official duties during periods when the legislature is not in session, \$400 for each calendar month or part thereof during those periods, to be paid monthly...”

(8) For periods when the Legislative Assembly is not in session, the Legislative Administration Committee shall provide for a telephone and an expense allowance for members of the Legislative Assembly that is in addition to the amount allowed under subsection (4) of this section. In determining the amount of the allowance for members, the committee shall consider the geographic areas of the member’s district. The additional allowance shall reflect travel expenses to communicate in districts of varying sizes.”

Expense allowances for members have not changed since 1985 when the present amounts were established. The chart below details the geographic size divisions, the old allowance and the new allowance.

Geographic Size (square miles)	Old Allowance	New Allowance
0-999	\$400	\$450
1,000-4,999	\$450	\$550
5,000-9,999	\$500	\$650
10,000+	\$550	\$750

The committee recognized the increased cost of traveling to meet with constituents and adopted these new allowance levels to more adequately cover those costs. Please call me at 503-986-1847 if you have any questions.

## Member Interim Expense Allowance

### ORS 171.072

(4) A member of the Legislative Assembly shall receive, as an allowance for expenses incurred in the performance of official duties during periods when the legislature is not in session, \$400 for each calendar month or part thereof during those periods, to be paid monthly...

8) For periods when the Legislative Assembly is not in session, the Legislative Administration Committee shall provide for a telephone and an expense allowance for members of the Legislative Assembly that is in addition to the amount allowed under subsection (4) of this section. In determining the amount of allowance for members, the committee shall consider the geographic area of the member's district. The additional allowance shall reflect travel expenses necessary to communicate in districts of varying sizes.

### History

<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Expense Allowance</u>
11-Jan-71	<u>\$125</u>
8-Jan-73	\$150
1-Jul-75	\$175
16-Jan-77	\$225
1-Jul-79	\$300
1-Jul-85	\$400-550

The interim expense allowance was established in ORS 171.072 (4) (8). The allowance became a geographic differential, based upon size of district, up to maximum of \$550, effective 7/1/85.

### Geographic Differential

<u>Square Miles</u>	<u>Differential</u>	<u>Expense Allowance</u>
0-999	\$0	\$400
1,000 – 4,999	\$50	\$450
5,000 – 9,999	\$100	\$500
10,000 +	\$150	\$550

**Senate Districts - Allowance by District Number**

District Number	Expense Allowance	District Number	Expense Allowance
1	\$450	16	\$400
2	\$450	17	\$400
3	\$400	18	\$450
4	\$400	19	\$450
5	\$400	20	\$400
6	\$400	21	\$400
7	\$400	22	\$500
8	\$400	23	\$450
9	\$400	24	\$450
10	\$400	25	\$450
11	\$400	26	\$450
12	\$400	27	\$500
13	\$400	28	\$550
14	\$450	29	\$500
15	\$450	30	\$550

**House Districts - Allowance by District Number**

District Number	Expense Allowance	District Number	Expense Allowance
1	\$400	31	\$400
2	\$450	32	\$400
3	\$400	33	\$400
4	\$450	34	\$450
5	\$400	35	\$400
6	\$400	36	\$400
7	\$400	37	\$450
8	\$400	38	\$400
9	\$400	39	\$400
10	\$400	40	\$400
11	\$400	41	\$400
12	\$400	42	\$400
13	\$400	43	\$450
14	\$400	44	\$450
15	\$400	45	\$450
16	\$400	46	\$450
17	\$400	47	\$400
18	\$400	48	\$450
19	\$400	49	\$450
20	\$400	50	\$400
21	\$400	51	\$400
22	\$400	52	\$450
23	\$400	53	\$400
24	\$400	54	\$450
25	\$400	55	\$500
26	\$400	56	\$450
27	\$400	57	\$450
28	\$450	58	\$500
29	\$400	59	\$550
30	\$400	60	\$550

## Proposal to Change Geographic Differential Effective 7/1/01

### Geographic Differential

Square Miles	Proposed Differential	Proposed Expense Allowance	Current Differential	Current Expense Allowance
0-999	\$50	\$450	\$0	\$400
1,000 – 4,999	\$100	\$550	\$50	\$450
5,000 – 9,999	\$150	\$650	\$100	\$500
10,000 +	\$200	\$750	\$150	\$550

### Budget Calculation

Under the proposed changes to the geographic differential, the expenditure increase totals \$140,106. The tables below outline the budgetary changes for the Senators and Representatives.

Senators	Monthly Budget	Months of Interim	Total Allowance	Social Security	Total Budget
Proposal	\$15,700	19	\$298,300	\$22,820	\$321,120
Current Differential	\$13,100	19	\$248,900	\$19,041	\$267,941
Increase	\$2,600		\$49,400	\$3,779	\$53,179

Representatives	Monthly Budget	Months of Interim	Total Allowance	Social Security	Total Budget
Proposal	\$29,500	19	\$560,500	\$42,878	\$603,378
Current Differential	\$25,250	19	\$479,750	\$36,701	\$516,451
Increase	\$4,250		\$80,750	\$6,177	\$86,927

#### Months of Interim:

When budgeting the interim expense allowance, a 19-month interim is calculated. Due to the wording in the statute, if session were to sine die June 29, June 30 would be considered the first day of interim. Members would be allowed to receive their full interim expense allowance for the month of June.

#### Social Security:

IRS regulations require that social security be withheld from the monthly expense allowance.

**Funding**

General Fund reversions of the interim budgets for Senators and Representatives would suggest that the differential increase could be absorbed within their current service level budget.

	<u>Senators</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
1999-2001 Interim (projected reversion)	\$200,000	\$100,000
1997-1999 Interim (actual reversion)	\$143,850	\$128,556



**Senate Districts – Current and Proposed Allowances by District Number**

District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance	District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance
1	\$450	\$550	16	\$400	\$450
2	\$450	\$550	17	\$400	\$450
3	\$400	\$450	18	\$450	\$550
4	\$400	\$450	19	\$450	\$550
5	\$400	\$450	20	\$400	\$450
6	\$400	\$450	21	\$400	\$450
7	\$400	\$450	22	\$500	\$650
8	\$400	\$450	23	\$450	\$550
9	\$400	\$450	24	\$450	\$550
10	\$400	\$450	25	\$450	\$550
11	\$400	\$450	26	\$450	\$450
12	\$400	\$450	27	\$500	\$650
13	\$400	\$450	28	\$550	\$750
14	\$450	\$450	29	\$500	\$650
15	\$450	\$450	30	\$550	\$750

**House Districts – Current and Proposed Allowances by District Number**

District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance	District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance
1	\$400	\$450	31	\$400	\$450
2	\$450	\$550	32	\$400	\$450
3	\$400	\$450	33	\$400	\$450
4	\$450	\$550	34	\$450	\$550
5	\$400	\$450	35	\$400	\$450
6	\$400	\$450	36	\$400	\$450
7	\$400	\$450	37	\$450	\$550
8	\$400	\$450	38	\$400	\$450
9	\$400	\$450	39	\$400	\$450
10	\$400	\$450	40	\$400	\$450
11	\$400	\$450	41	\$400	\$450
12	\$400	\$450	42	\$400	\$450
13	\$400	\$450	43	\$450	\$550
14	\$400	\$450	44	\$450	\$550
15	\$400	\$450	45	\$450	\$550

District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance	District Number	Current Allowance	Proposed Allowance
16	\$400	\$450	46	\$450	\$550
17	\$400	\$450	47	\$400	\$450
18	\$400	\$450	48	\$450	\$550
19	\$400	\$450	49	\$450	\$550
20	\$400	\$450	50	\$400	\$450
21	\$400	\$450	51	\$400	\$450
22	\$400	\$450	52	\$450	\$550
23	\$400	\$450	53	\$400	\$450
24	\$400	\$450	54	\$450	\$550
25	\$400	\$450	55	\$500	\$650
26	\$400	\$450	56	\$450	\$550
27	\$400	\$450	57	\$450	\$550
28	\$450	\$550	58	\$500	\$650
29	\$400	\$450	59	\$550	\$750
30	\$400	\$450	60	\$550	\$750