

SENATE BILL REPORT

SSB 5401

As Passed Senate, March 12, 1997

Title: An act relating to compensation for public utility district commissioners.

Brief Description: Setting compensation for public utility district commissioners.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators Sellar, Snyder and Haugen).

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Government Operations: 2/11/97, 2/20/97 [DPS].
Passed Senate, 3/12/97, 47-1.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5401 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators McCaslin, Chair; Hale, Vice Chair; Anderson, Haugen, Horn, Patterson and Swanson.

Staff: Eugene Green (786-7405)

Background: Each public utility district commissioner of a district operating utility properties receives a salary during the calendar year dependent upon the total gross revenue of the district from its distribution system and its generating system as follows:

Over \$15 million	\$500/month
\$2 to \$15 million	\$350/month

Commissioners of other districts serve without salary unless a resolution provides for a salary, which must not exceed \$200/month. This salary schedule has been in effect since 1977.

Summary of Bill: Public utility district commissioner salaries are raised as follows:

Over \$15 million	-	From \$500/month to \$1,000/month. A resolution could raise salary up to \$1,300/month
\$2 to \$15 million	-	From \$350/month to \$700/month. A resolution could raise salary up to \$900/month
Commissioners of other districts	-	With passage of a resolution, from up to \$200/month to up to \$400/month

The total gross revenue of a public utility district, for setting salaries, is no longer restricted to revenue only from a distribution system and its generating system.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: None requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: The salaries have not been adjusted in 20 years. We want to get more people to run for PUD commissioner.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: PRO: Senator Sellar, prime sponsor; Steven Duncan, PUD Association; John Goldbury, Benton PUD; Chuck Moon, Snohomish PUD; Bruce Jorgenson, Mason 3 PUD.