

SSB 6297 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Appropriations

ADOPTED 03/05/2008

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that an elected
4 county prosecuting attorney functions as both a state officer in
5 pursuing criminal cases on behalf of the state of Washington, and as a
6 county officer who acts as civil counsel for the county, and provides
7 services to school districts and lesser taxing districts by statute.

8 The elected prosecuting attorney's dual role as a state officer and
9 a county officer is reflected in various provisions of the state
10 Constitution and within state statute.

11 The legislature finds that the responsibilities and decisions
12 required of the elected prosecuting attorney are essentially the same
13 in every county within Washington state, from a decision to seek the
14 death penalty in an aggravated murder case, to the decision not to
15 prosecute but refer an offender to drug court; from a decision to
16 pursue child rape charges based solely upon the testimony of the child,
17 to a decision to divert juvenile offenders out of the justice system.
18 Therefore, the legislature finds that elected prosecuting attorneys
19 need to exercise the same level of skill and expertise in the least
20 populous county as in the most populous county.

21 The legislature finds that the salary of the elected county
22 prosecuting attorney should be tied to that of a superior court judge.
23 This furthers the state's interests and responsibilities under the
24 state Constitution, and is consistent with the current practice of
25 several counties in Washington state, the practices of several other
26 states, and the national district attorneys' association national
27 standards.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.17.020 and 2001 c 73 s 3 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

1 The county legislative authority of each county or a county
2 commissioner or councilmember salary commission which conforms with RCW
3 36.17.024 is authorized to establish the salaries of the elected
4 officials of the county. (~~One half of the salary of each prosecuting~~
5 ~~attorney shall be paid by the state.~~) The state and county shall
6 contribute to the costs of the salary of the elected prosecuting
7 attorney as set forth in subsection (11) of this section. The annual
8 salary of a county elected official shall not be less than the
9 following:

10 (1) In each county with a population of one million or more:
11 Auditor, clerk, treasurer, sheriff, members of the county legislative
12 authority, and coroner, eighteen thousand dollars; and assessor,
13 nineteen thousand dollars(~~and prosecuting attorney, thirty thousand~~
14 ~~three hundred dollars));~~

15 (2) In each county with a population of from two hundred ten
16 thousand to less than one million: Auditor, seventeen thousand six
17 hundred dollars; clerk, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars;
18 treasurer, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; sheriff, nineteen
19 thousand five hundred dollars; assessor, seventeen thousand six hundred
20 dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, twenty four thousand eight hundred~~
21 ~~dollars;)~~) members of the county legislative authority, nineteen
22 thousand five hundred dollars; and coroner, seventeen thousand six
23 hundred dollars;

24 (3) In each county with a population of from one hundred twenty-
25 five thousand to less than two hundred ten thousand: Auditor, sixteen
26 thousand dollars; clerk, sixteen thousand dollars; treasurer, sixteen
27 thousand dollars; sheriff, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars;
28 assessor, sixteen thousand dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, twenty four~~
29 ~~thousand eight hundred dollars;)~~) members of the county legislative
30 authority, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; and coroner, sixteen
31 thousand dollars;

32 (4) In each county with a population of from seventy thousand to
33 less than one hundred twenty-five thousand: Auditor, fourteen thousand
34 nine hundred dollars; clerk, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars;
35 treasurer, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; assessor, fourteen
36 thousand nine hundred dollars; sheriff, fourteen thousand nine hundred
37 dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, twenty three thousand seven hundred~~

1 ~~dollars;~~) members of the county legislative authority, fourteen
2 thousand nine hundred dollars; and coroner, fourteen thousand nine
3 hundred dollars;

4 (5) In each county with a population of from forty thousand to less
5 than seventy thousand: Auditor, thirteen thousand eight hundred
6 dollars; clerk, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; treasurer,
7 thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; assessor, thirteen thousand
8 eight hundred dollars; sheriff, thirteen thousand eight hundred
9 dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, twenty three thousand seven hundred~~
10 ~~dollars;~~) members of the county legislative authority, thirteen
11 thousand eight hundred dollars; and coroner, thirteen thousand eight
12 hundred dollars;

13 (6) In each county with a population of from eighteen thousand to
14 less than forty thousand: Auditor, twelve thousand one hundred
15 dollars; clerk, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, twelve
16 thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, twelve thousand one hundred
17 dollars; assessor, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; (~~prosecuting~~
18 ~~attorney in such a county in which there is no state university or~~
19 ~~college, fourteen thousand three hundred dollars; in such a county in~~
20 ~~which there is a state university or college, sixteen thousand five~~
21 ~~hundred dollars;~~) and members of the county legislative authority,
22 eleven thousand dollars;

23 (7) In each county with a population of from twelve thousand to
24 less than eighteen thousand: Auditor, ten thousand one hundred
25 dollars; clerk, ten thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, ten
26 thousand one hundred dollars; assessor, ten thousand one hundred
27 dollars; sheriff, eleven thousand two hundred dollars; (~~prosecuting~~
28 ~~attorney, thirteen thousand two hundred dollars;~~) and members of the
29 county legislative authority, nine thousand four hundred dollars;

30 (8) In each county with a population of from eight thousand to less
31 than twelve thousand: Auditor, ten thousand one hundred dollars;
32 clerk, ten thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, ten thousand one
33 hundred dollars; assessor, ten thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff,
34 eleven thousand two hundred dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, nine~~
35 ~~thousand nine hundred dollars;~~) and members of the county legislative
36 authority, seven thousand dollars;

37 (9) In each county with a population of from five thousand to less
38 than eight thousand: Auditor, nine thousand one hundred dollars;

1 clerk, nine thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, nine thousand one
2 hundred dollars; assessor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff,
3 ten thousand five hundred dollars; (~~prosecuting attorney, nine~~
4 ~~thousand nine hundred dollars;~~) and members of the county legislative
5 authority, six thousand five hundred dollars;

6 (10) In each other county: Auditor, nine thousand one hundred
7 dollars; clerk, nine thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, nine
8 thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, ten thousand five hundred
9 dollars; assessor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; (~~prosecuting~~
10 ~~attorney, nine thousand nine hundred dollars;~~) and members of the
11 county legislative authority, six thousand five hundred dollars;

12 (11) The state of Washington shall contribute an amount equal to
13 one-half the salary of a superior court judge towards the salary of the
14 elected prosecuting attorney. Upon receipt of the state contribution,
15 a county shall continue to contribute towards the salary of the elected
16 prosecuting attorney in an amount that equals or exceeds that
17 contributed by the county in 2008.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2008.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. If specific funding for the purposes of this
20 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
21 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
22 void."

23 Correct the title.

--- END ---