Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Education Committee

HB 2851

Brief Description: Increasing compensation for school directors in districts enrolling twenty thousand or more students.

Sponsors: Representatives Frame, Magendanz, Bergquist, Hargrove, Pollet, Harris, Moscoso, Muri, S. Hunt, Pettigrew, Springer, Kagi, Kuderer, Clibborn, Sawyer, Cody, Stanford, Ormsby, Senn, Farrell, Hudgins, Moeller, Kochmar and Santos.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Increases the maximum allowable compensation for school board directors in districts with enrollments of 20,000 or more students from \$4,800 per year to the annual salary of a legislator, an amount currently set \$45,474 per year.

Hearing Date: 2/2/16

Staff: Ethan Moreno (786-7386).

Background:

Compensation for School Board Directors.

If authorized by board resolution at a regularly scheduled meeting, the members of a school district board of directors may receive compensation of \$50 per day, or portion of a day, for attending board meetings and for performing other services on behalf of the district. This compensation may not exceed \$4,800 per year and is in addition to any reimbursement for expenses. Any director may waive part or all of his or her compensation.

A board of directors may authorize the compensation only from locally collected excess levy funds available for that purpose. Compensation for board members may not cause the state to incur any present or future funding obligation.

Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The 17-member Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials sets the salaries of the elected officials in the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of state government including:

- the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Public Lands, and Insurance Commissioner;
- members of the Legislature; and
- justices of the Supreme Court and judges of the Court of Appeals, Superior Courts, and District Courts.

The current annual salary for a legislator is \$45,474. Beginning on September 1, 2016, this salary will increase to \$46,839.

Summary of Bill:

If authorized by board resolution at a regularly scheduled meeting, each member of a school board of directors of a school district that enrolls 20,000 students or more may receive compensation for each day, or portion of a day, for attending board meetings and for performing other services on behalf of the district in an amount that does not exceed the annual salary for a legislator (currently \$45,474) as set by the Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials.

Compensation rates for school board directors in districts enrolling fewer than 20,000 students remain capped at \$50 per day or portion of a day, and \$4,800 annually.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 1/29/16.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.