



STATE OF IDAHO
OFFICE OF THE STATE CONTROLLER
BRANDON D WOOLF

Date: September 30, 2022

To: Senate Pro-Tem President Chuck Winder and House Speaker Scott Bedke

From: State Controller Brandon Woolf 

Re: Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation clarification

During this past year both the House and Senate have seen vacancies to their membership during the interim. Our State Controller's Office has some questions related to helping both of your offices process "CAP" payments for Unvouchered Expense Allowances for your members during these vacancies. This memo provides the background and questions needing clarification from the Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation to help identify their intent going forward.

The current Report of the Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation language states the following:

II. Unvouchered Expense Allowances (3) page 2. (CAP payments)

3. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a lump sum unvouchered constituent service allowance to be paid annually, on the last pay date preceding the first day of December, for expenses incurred for maintaining the office of the legislator, as follows:

- (a) Each member shall receive the unvouchered constituent service allowance of \$2,500.*
- (b) Each member of the Legislature whose legislative district is composed of 1,000 square miles or more but less than 2,000 square miles shall receive an additional unvouchered constituent service allowance of \$400. A legislator whose legislative district is composed of 2,000 square miles or more shall receive \$400 plus \$200 for each additional 1,000 square mile increment over 1,000 square miles, as illustrated in the chart on page 4 of this report.*
- (c) If Vacancy – the \$2,500 shall be prorated between the two individuals who have served in the office, using as a base the number of total days of service of each member serving in that office while the Legislature was not in session.*

Clarification Questions for processing:

The clarification of the following questions will help all of our offices with the processing of these situations. Could these be added as a recommendation to the 2022 Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation to clarify going forward?

1. 3(c) only speaks about vacancy situations for the \$2,500 constituent service allowance payments, but does not speak towards the vacancy situation as it relates to 3(b) and the legislative district size payments. Should these legislative district size payments also be prorated? Is that the intent? Who should receive the payments? Timing of pro-rated payment?