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Date: February 21, 2025
To: Legislative Salary Council
From: Nick Nigro, LCC Research Analyst
RE: Constitutional and Statutory Provisions of the Legislative Salary Council

Memorandum

Background.

The Legislative Salary Council was created by a constitutional amendment. The amendment was approved by the Legislature in 2013 and ratified by voters in 2016. Statute was also approved in 2014 to implement the amendment.¹ This Council first met in 2017 and continues every two years. This memo refers to the constitutional amendment² and the statute³ together as “the law.”

The role of the Legislative Salary Council is to determine legislators’ salaries. The law requires this council to act by March 31. The salaries take effect on July 1.

The Legislative Salary Council must produce a report.

The law requires the Council to outline its rationale in a report. The Council “must take into account any other legislative compensation provided to legislators” as well as “the most recent budget forecast.”

- Alongside their salary as prescribed by this Council, legislators can receive per diem, reimbursements for travel, insurance, retirement, and other fringe benefits.
- The last budget forecast was released in December and the next will be released in March.

Council members must not have ex parte communication with legislators.

The law prohibits “any communication with a member of the legislature” and members of this Council until the report is submitted. Members should avoid any perception of violating this law by ceasing any lobbying efforts or private communication with legislators.

¹ [Laws 2014, chapter 282](#)

² Minnesota Constitution, [article IV, section 9](#)

³ Minnesota Statutes, [section 15A.0825](#)