

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 127

Short Title: Up State Emp. Travel Rates.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Thompson; Buchanan, Cansler, Easterling, Hensley, Insko, Justus, Kiser, Russell, Sherrill, Smith, and Yongue.

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Referred to: Public Employees, if favorable, Appropriations.

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February 13, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE RATES OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR LODGING AND  
2 MILEAGE EXPENSES INCURRED BY STATE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES  
3 IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 138-6(a) reads as rewritten:

6 "(a) Travel on official business by the officers and employees of State departments,  
7 institutions and agencies which operate from funds deposited with the State Treasurer  
8 shall be reimbursed at the following rates:

- 9 (1) For transportation by privately owned automobile, irrespective of the  
10 number of miles travelled, the State business standard mileage  
11 reimbursement rate set by the Internal Revenue Service per mile of travel  
12 is established at thirty-one and one-half cents (31.5¢) per mile and the  
13 actual cost of tolls paid. Any other law which sets a mileage rate by  
14 referring to the rate set herein, instead establishes a rate of twenty five cents  
15 (25¢) per mile.—No reimbursement shall be made for the use of a  
16 personal car in commuting from an employee's home to his duty station  
17 in connection with regularly scheduled work hours. Any designation of  
18 an employee's home as his duty station by a department head shall  
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1 require prior approval by the Office of State Budget and Management  
2 on an annual basis.

3 (2) For bus, railroad, Pullman, or other conveyance, actual fare.

4 (3) For expenses incurred for subsistence, payment of ~~seventy-one dollars~~  
5 ~~(\$71.00)~~ eighty-one dollars (\$81.00) per day when traveling in-state or  
6 ~~eighty-three dollars (\$83.00)~~ ninety-three dollars (\$93.00) per day when  
7 traveling out-of-state. When travel involves less than a full day (24-  
8 hour period), a reasonable prorated amount shall be paid in accordance  
9 with regulations and criteria which shall be promulgated and published  
10 by the Director of the Budget. Reimbursement to State employees for  
11 lunches eaten while on official business may be made only in the  
12 following circumstances:

13 a. When an overnight stay is required reimbursement is allowed  
14 while an employee is in travel status;

15 b. When the cost of the lunch is included as part of a registration fee  
16 for a formal congress, conference, assembly, or convocation, by  
17 whatever name called. Such assembly must involve the active  
18 participation of persons other than the employees of a single  
19 State department, institution, or agency and must be necessary  
20 for conducting official State business; or

21 c. When the State employee is a member of a State board,  
22 commission, committee, or council which operates from funds  
23 deposited with the State Treasurer, and the lunch is preplanned as  
24 part of the meeting for the entire board, commission, committee,  
25 or council.

26 (4) For convention registration fees not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00) per  
27 convention."

28 Section 2. Effective upon the convening of the 1999 Regular Session of the  
29 General Assembly, G.S. 120-3.1(a)(2) reads as rewritten:

30 "(2) A travel allowance at the rate which is the State business standard  
31 mileage reimbursement rate set by ~~the Internal Revenue Service in Rev.~~  
32 ~~Proc. 93-51, December 27, 1993, G.S. 138-6,~~ whenever the member  
33 travels, whether in or out of session, as a representative of the General  
34 Assembly or of its committees or commissions, with the approval of the  
35 Legislative Services Commission."

36 Section 3. The Office of State Budget and Management shall revise the  
37 schedule used for reporting allowable subsistence expenses incurred by State officers and  
38 employees while traveling on State business by allocating to lodging the increase  
39 provided in Section 1 of this act.

40 Section 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997, except that Section 2 of  
41 this act shall become effective upon the convening of the 1999 Regular Session of the  
42 General Assembly.