

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5401

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Government Operations, February 20, 1997

**Title:** An act relating to compensation for public utility district commissioners.

**Brief Description:** Setting compensation for public utility district commissioners.

**Sponsors:** Senators Sellar, Snyder and Haugen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations: 2/11/97, 2/20/97 [DPS].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5401 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators McCaslin, Chair; Hale, Vice Chair; Anderson, Haugen, Horn, Patterson and Swanson.

**Staff:** Eugene Green (786-7405)

**Background:** Each public utility district commissioner of a district operating utility properties receives a salary during the calendar year dependent upon the total gross revenue of the district from its distribution system and its generating system as follows:

Over \$15 million	\$500/month
\$2 to \$15 million	\$350/month

Commissioners of other districts serve without salary unless a resolution provides for a salary, which must not exceed \$200/month. This salary schedule has been in effect since 1977.

**Summary of Substitute Bill:** Public utility district commissioner salaries are raised as follows:

Over \$15 million	- From \$500/month to \$1,000/month. A resolution could raise salary up to \$1,300/month
\$2 to \$15 million	- From \$350/month to \$700/month. A resolution could raise salary up to \$900/month
Commissioners of other districts	- With passage of a resolution, from up to \$200/month to up to \$400/month

The total gross revenue of a public utility district, for setting salaries, is no longer restricted to revenue only from a distribution system and its generating system.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:** The substitute bill does not contain an inflation adjustment for those salaries authorized by resolution of the commissioners.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** None requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** The salaries have not been adjusted in 20 years. We want to get more people to run for PUD commissioner.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** PRO: Senator Sellar, prime sponsor; Steven Duncan, PUD Association; John Goldbury, Benton PUD; Chuck Moon, Snohomish PUD; Bruce Jorgenson, Mason 3 PUD.