

SENATE BILL 5228

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Thorsness, Oke, von Reichbauer, Amondson, Metcalf, Saling, L. Smith, Craswell and McCaslin.

Read first time January 24, 1991. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing legislative per diem and appropriations
2 to the governor as an incentive for concluding extraordinary sessions
3 of the legislature; amending RCW 44.04.120; adding a new section to
4 chapter 43.88 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 44.04.120 and 1985 c 3 s 1 are each amended to read as
7 follows:

8 (1) Each member of the senate or house of representatives when
9 serving on official legislative business shall be entitled to receive,
10 in lieu of per diem or any other payment, for each day or major portion
11 thereof in which he is actually engaged in legislative business or
12 business of the committee, commission, or council, notwithstanding any
13 laws to the contrary, an allowance in an amount fixed by the secretary
14 of the senate and chief clerk of the house, respectively, in accordance
15 with applicable rules and resolutions of each body. Such allowance

1 shall be reasonably calculated to reimburse expenses, exclusive of
2 mileage, which are ordinary and necessary in the conduct of legislative
3 business, recognizing cost variances which are encountered in different
4 locales. The allowance authorized shall not exceed the greater of
5 forty-four dollars per day or the maximum daily amount determined under
6 RCW 43.03.050, as now or hereafter amended. In addition, a mileage
7 allowance shall be paid at the rate per mile provided for in RCW
8 43.03.060, as now or hereafter amended, when authorized by the house,
9 committee, commission, or council of which he is a member and on the
10 business of which he is engaged.

11 (2) During any extraordinary session of the legislature pursuant to
12 Article II, section 12(2) of the state Constitution, the allowance
13 established under subsection (1) of this section shall be reduced by
14 ten percent during the first five days of the session, twenty percent
15 during the next ten days, and twenty-five percent during the remainder
16 of the extraordinary session. An amount equal to the allowances not
17 paid under this subsection shall be deposited by the chief clerk of the
18 house of representatives and the secretary of the senate in the account
19 established under section 2(2) of this act.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.88 RCW
21 to read as follows:

22 (1) For each day of an extraordinary session of the legislature
23 pursuant to Article II, section 12(2) of the state Constitution, the
24 director of financial management shall remove from appropriated status
25 one percent of the state general funds appropriated for the operation
26 of the office of the governor.

27 (2) The funds removed from appropriated status under this section,
28 together with the moneys identified in RCW 44.04.120(2), shall be
29 deposited in the state conservancy account hereby created in the state

1 treasury. Moneys in the account may be appropriated by the legislature
2 solely for the purpose of acquiring or improving lands for wildlife
3 habitat, conservation, or public recreation purposes.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
6 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
7 effect immediately.