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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON SALARIES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Section 26-56, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           " ~~[+] §26-56 [+~~ **Commission on salaries.** (a) Pursuant to  
4 article XVI, section 3.5, of the Hawaii Constitution ~~[of the~~  
5 ~~State of Hawaii]~~, there is established a commission on salaries  
6 within the department of human resources development, for  
7 administrative purposes only.

8           The commission shall consist of seven members of whom:

- 9           (1) Two members shall be appointed by the governor;
- 10           (2) Two members shall be appointed by the president of the  
11           senate;
- 12           (3) Two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the  
13           house of representatives; and
- 14           (4) One member shall be appointed by the chief justice of  
15           the supreme court.

16           Vacancies in these positions shall be filled in the same  
17 manner. The members of the commission shall serve without



1 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including  
2 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

3 (b) The commission convened under this section shall  
4 review and recommend an appropriate salary for the governor,  
5 lieutenant governor, members of the legislature, justices and  
6 judges of all state courts, administrative director of the State  
7 or an equivalent position, and department heads or executive  
8 officers and the deputies or assistants to the department heads  
9 of the departments of:

- 10 (1) Accounting and general services;
- 11 (2) Agriculture;
- 12 (3) The attorney general;
- 13 (4) Budget and finance;
- 14 (5) Business, economic development, and tourism;
- 15 (6) Commerce and consumer affairs;
- 16 (7) Defense;
- 17 (8) Hawaiian home lands;
- 18 (9) Health;
- 19 (10) Human resources development;
- 20 (11) Human services;
- 21 (12) Labor and industrial relations;
- 22 (13) Land and natural resources;



1 (14) Public safety;

2 (15) Taxation; and

3 (16) Transportation.

4 The commission shall not review the salary of any position  
5 in the department of education or the University of Hawaii.

6 The commission may recommend different salaries for  
7 department heads and executive officers and different salary  
8 ranges for deputies or assistants to department heads; provided  
9 that the commission shall recommend the same salary range for  
10 deputies or assistants to department heads within the same  
11 department; provided further that the appointing official shall  
12 specify the salary for a particular position within the  
13 applicable range.

14 The commission shall not recommend salaries lower than  
15 salary amounts recommended by prior commissions replaced by this  
16 section.

17 (c) Any commission convened under this section shall:

18 (1) Hold a public hearing at which written or oral  
19 testimony may be submitted; and

20 (2) Give public notice of each hearing setting forth the  
21 purpose, time, date, and place of the hearing. The  
22 notice shall be given once each week for three



1           successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation  
2           in the state, and the last notice shall be not less  
3           than ten days nor more than thirty days before the  
4           date of the hearing.

5           ~~[(e)]~~ (d) The commission may seek assistance from the  
6 department of human resources development and any other agency  
7 in conducting its review, and all agencies shall fully cooperate  
8 with the commission and provide any necessary information to the  
9 commission upon request.

10          ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The commission shall convene in the month of  
11 November 2006, and every six years thereafter. Not later than  
12 the fortieth legislative day of the regular session of 2007, and  
13 every six years thereafter, the commission shall submit a report  
14 of its findings and its salary recommendations to the  
15 legislature, through the governor. The commission may include  
16 incremental increases that take effect prior to the convening of  
17 the next salary commission.

18          (f) The recommended salaries submitted by the commission  
19 shall become effective July 1 of the next fiscal year unless the  
20 legislature disapproves the recommended salaries submitted by  
21 the commission through the adoption of a concurrent resolution,  
22 which shall be approved by a simple majority of each house of



1 the legislature, prior to adjournment sine die of the  
2 legislative session in which the recommended salaries are  
3 submitted; provided that any change in salary which becomes  
4 effective shall not apply to the legislature to which the  
5 recommendation for the change in salary was submitted.

6 The governor shall include the salary amounts recommended  
7 by the commission and approved by the legislature for employees  
8 of the executive branch in the executive budget. If the salary  
9 amounts recommended by the commission are disapproved by the  
10 legislature, the commission shall reconvene in the November next  
11 following the legislative disapproval to review the  
12 legislature's reasons for disapproving its salary  
13 recommendation. The commission may submit a report of its  
14 findings and submit a new salary recommendation to the  
15 legislature at the next regular session. The commission's  
16 reconvening following a legislative disapproval shall not toll  
17 the six-year cycle."

18 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Della C. Belatti*



**Report Title:**

Commission on Salaries

**Description:**

Requires Commission on Salaries to hold public hearings and provide public notice of each hearing.

