

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1246

By: Representative L. Fite

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN COUNTY EXPENSES; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING CERTAIN COUNTY EXPENSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-14-1203(a) and (b), concerning compensation and expense reimbursements generally, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Appropriation Required. All compensation, including salary, hourly compensation, expense allowances, training expenses, and other remunerations, allowed to any county ~~or officer, district officer, county officer-elect, district officer-elect,~~ or employee thereof shall be is made only on specific appropriation by the quorum court of the county.

(b) Payments on Claims Approved by the County Judge. All compensation, including salary, hourly compensation, expense allowances, training expenses, and other remuneration, allowed to any county ~~or officer, district officer, county officer-elect, district officer-elect,~~ or employee thereof shall be is made only upon claim or voucher presented to the county judge and approved by him or her in the manner prescribed by law for disbursement of county funds.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-14-1207 is amended to read as follows:
14-14-1207. Reimbursement of allowable expenses.

(a) Reimbursement Authorized.

(1) All county and district officials and authorized deputies or



employees ~~thereof shall be~~ are entitled to receive reimbursement of expenses incurred in the conduct of official and nondiscretionary duties under an appropriation for the operating expenses of an office, function, or service. Reimbursement of expenses ~~that are~~ incurred in the performance of discretionary functions and services may be permitted when ~~provided for~~ authorized by a specific appropriation of the quorum court.

(2) Reimbursement of expenses for discretionary functions and services may include training expenses for a county official-elect and a district official-elect if authorized by the quorum court.

(b) Allowance for Meals, Lodging, and Other Allowable Expenses.

(1) All reimbursements for the purchase of meals, meal tips, lodging, and other allowable expenses ~~shall be~~ are based on the actual expense incurred or on a per diem basis if ~~approved~~ authorized by the quorum court.

(2) Reimbursement for meal tips under subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the purchase amount of the meal.

(3) A per diem reimbursement under subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall be made under an accountable plan as defined by Internal Revenue Service regulations as in existence on January 1, 2009.

(c) Reimbursement of Travel Expense.

(1) Privately Owned Motor Vehicles.

(A)(i) Any elected county ~~or~~ officer, district officer, county officer-elect, district officer-elect, or employee ~~thereof~~ using a privately owned motor vehicle in the conduct of county affairs may be reimbursed at a per-mile rate established by ordinance.

(ii) Reimbursement ~~shall be~~ is based only on official miles driven and legitimate automobile parking fees.

(iii) When more than one (1) traveler is transported in the same vehicle, only the owner ~~shall be~~ is entitled to mileage reimbursement.

(B) A county shall not assume responsibility for any maintenance, operational costs, accidents, and fines incurred by the owner of the vehicle while on official business for the county.

(2) Privately Owned Airplanes. Reimbursement for travel expense using privately owned airplanes ~~shall be~~ is based upon the most direct route

in air miles and at the same rate as established for privately owned motor vehicles.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 14-14-1208(b), concerning professional memberships and meetings, is amended to read as follows:

(b) ~~Elected county and~~ Elected county officers, district officers, township officials officers, county officers-elect, district officers-elect, and township officers-elect of a county government may be allowed per diem and either mileage or actual transportation expenses for attendance at meetings of the appropriate association of local government officials. Reasonable expenses or charges against each local government, as a member of the association, may be paid by a county.

APPROVED: 02/27/2015