

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Section  
5 2A-1.1 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1) (from Ch. 46, par. 2A-1.1)

7 Sec. 2A-1.1. All Elections - Consolidated Schedule.

8 (a) In even-numbered years, the general election shall be  
9 held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November;  
10 and an election to be known as the general primary election  
11 shall be held on the third ~~first~~ Tuesday in March ~~February~~;

12 (b) In odd-numbered years, an election to be known as the  
13 consolidated election shall be held on the first Tuesday in  
14 April except as provided in Section 2A-1.1a of this Act; and an  
15 election to be known as the consolidated primary election shall  
16 be held on the last Tuesday in February.

17 (Source: P.A. 95-6, eff. 6-20-07.)

18 Section 10. The General Assembly Compensation Act is  
19 amended by changing Section 4 as follows:

20 (25 ILCS 115/4) (from Ch. 63, par. 15.1)

21 Sec. 4. Office allowance. Beginning July 1, 2001, each

1 member of the House of Representatives is authorized to approve  
2 the expenditure of not more than \$61,000 per year and each  
3 member of the Senate is authorized to approve the expenditure  
4 of not more than \$73,000 per year to pay for "personal  
5 services", "contractual services", "commodities", "printing",  
6 "travel", "operation of automotive equipment",  
7 "telecommunications services", as defined in the State Finance  
8 Act, and the compensation of one or more legislative assistants  
9 authorized pursuant to this Section, in connection with his or  
10 her legislative duties and not in connection with any political  
11 campaign. On July 1, 2002 and on July 1 of each year  
12 thereafter, the amount authorized per year under this Section  
13 for each member of the Senate and each member of the House of  
14 Representatives shall be increased by a percentage increase  
15 equivalent to the lesser of (i) the increase in the designated  
16 cost of living index or (ii) 5%. The designated cost of living  
17 index is the index known as the "Employment Cost Index, Wages  
18 and Salaries, By Occupation and Industry Groups: State and  
19 Local Government Workers: Public Administration" as published  
20 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of  
21 Labor for the calendar year immediately preceding the year of  
22 the respective July 1st increase date. The increase shall be  
23 added to the then current amount, and the adjusted amount so  
24 determined shall be the annual amount beginning July 1 of the  
25 increase year until July 1 of the next year. No increase under  
26 this provision shall be less than zero.

1           A member may purchase office equipment if the member  
2 certifies to the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the  
3 House, as applicable, that the purchase price, whether paid in  
4 lump sum or installments, amounts to less than would be charged  
5 for renting or leasing the equipment over its anticipated  
6 useful life. All such equipment must be purchased through the  
7 Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House, as  
8 applicable, for proper identification and verification of  
9 purchase.

10           Each member of the General Assembly is authorized to employ  
11 one or more legislative assistants, who shall be solely under  
12 the direction and control of that member, for the purpose of  
13 assisting the member in the performance of his or her official  
14 duties. A legislative assistant may be employed pursuant to  
15 this Section as a full-time employee, part-time employee, or  
16 contractual employee, at the discretion of the member. If  
17 employed as a State employee, a legislative assistant shall  
18 receive employment benefits on the same terms and conditions  
19 that apply to other employees of the General Assembly. Each  
20 member shall adopt and implement personnel policies for  
21 legislative assistants under his or her direction and control  
22 relating to work time requirements, documentation for  
23 reimbursement for travel on official State business,  
24 compensation, and the earning and accrual of State benefits for  
25 those legislative assistants who may be eligible to receive  
26 those benefits. The policies shall also require legislative

1 assistants to periodically submit time sheets documenting, in  
2 quarter-hour increments, the time spent each day on official  
3 State business. The policies shall require the time sheets to  
4 be submitted on paper, electronically, or both and to be  
5 maintained in either paper or electronic format by the  
6 applicable fiscal office for a period of at least 2 years.  
7 Contractual employees may satisfy the time sheets requirement  
8 by complying with the terms of their contract, which shall  
9 provide for a means of compliance with this requirement. A  
10 member may satisfy the requirements of this paragraph by  
11 adopting and implementing the personnel policies promulgated  
12 by that member's legislative leader under the State Officials  
13 and Employees Ethics Act with respect to that member's  
14 legislative assistants.

15 As used in this Section the term "personal services" shall  
16 include contributions of the State under the Federal Insurance  
17 Contribution Act and under Article 14 of the Illinois Pension  
18 Code. As used in this Section the term "contractual services"  
19 shall not include improvements to real property unless those  
20 improvements are the obligation of the lessee under the lease  
21 agreement. Beginning July 1, 1989, as used in the Section, the  
22 term "travel" shall be limited to travel in connection with a  
23 member's legislative duties and not in connection with any  
24 political campaign. Beginning on the effective date of this  
25 amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly, as used in this  
26 Section, the term "printing" includes, but is not limited to,

1 newsletters, brochures, certificates, congratulatory mailings,  
2 greeting or welcome messages, anniversary or birthday cards,  
3 and congratulations for prominent achievement cards. As used in  
4 this Section, the term "printing" includes fees for  
5 non-substantive resolutions charged by the Clerk of the House  
6 of Representatives under subsection (c-5) of Section 1 of the  
7 Legislative Materials Act. No newsletter or brochure that is  
8 paid for, in whole or in part, with funds provided under this  
9 Section may be printed or mailed during a period beginning  
10 February 1 ~~December 15~~ of the year of ~~preceding~~ a general  
11 primary election and ending the day after the general primary  
12 election and during a period beginning September 1 of the year  
13 of a general election and ending the day after the general  
14 election, except that such a newsletter or brochure may be  
15 mailed during those times if it is mailed to a constituent in  
16 response to that constituent's inquiry concerning the needs of  
17 that constituent or questions raised by that constituent.  
18 Nothing in this Section shall be construed to authorize  
19 expenditures for lodging and meals while a member is in  
20 attendance at sessions of the General Assembly.

21 Any utility bill for service provided to a member's  
22 district office for a period including portions of 2  
23 consecutive fiscal years may be paid from funds appropriated  
24 for such expenditure in either fiscal year.

25 If a vacancy occurs in the office of Senator or  
26 Representative in the General Assembly, any office equipment in

1 the possession of the vacating member shall transfer to the  
2 member's successor; if the successor does not want such  
3 equipment, it shall be transferred to the Secretary of the  
4 Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the case  
5 may be, and if not wanted by other members of the General  
6 Assembly then to the Department of Central Management Services  
7 for treatment as surplus property under the State Property  
8 Control Act. Each member, on or before June 30th of each year,  
9 shall conduct an inventory of all equipment purchased pursuant  
10 to this Act. Such inventory shall be filed with the Secretary  
11 of the Senate or the Clerk of the House, as the case may be.  
12 Whenever a vacancy occurs, the Secretary of the Senate or the  
13 Clerk of the House, as the case may be, shall conduct an  
14 inventory of equipment purchased.

15 In the event that a member leaves office during his or her  
16 term, any unexpended or unobligated portion of the allowance  
17 granted under this Section shall lapse. The vacating member's  
18 successor shall be granted an allowance in an amount, rounded  
19 to the nearest dollar, computed by dividing the annual  
20 allowance by 365 and multiplying the quotient by the number of  
21 days remaining in the fiscal year.

22 From any appropriation for the purposes of this Section for  
23 a fiscal year which overlaps 2 General Assemblies, no more than  
24 1/2 of the annual allowance per member may be spent or  
25 encumbered by any member of either the outgoing or incoming  
26 General Assembly, except that any member of the incoming

1 General Assembly who was a member of the outgoing General  
2 Assembly may encumber or spend any portion of his annual  
3 allowance within the fiscal year.

4 The appropriation for the annual allowances permitted by  
5 this Section shall be included in an appropriation to the  
6 President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of  
7 Representatives for their respective members. The President of  
8 the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall voucher for  
9 payment individual members' expenditures from their annual  
10 office allowances to the State Comptroller, subject to the  
11 authority of the Comptroller under Section 9 of the State  
12 Comptroller Act.

13 Nothing in this Section prohibits the expenditure of  
14 personal funds or the funds of a political committee controlled  
15 by an officeholder to defray the customary and reasonable  
16 expenses of an officeholder in connection with the performance  
17 of governmental and public service functions.

18 (Source: P.A. 95-6, eff. 6-20-07; 96-555, eff. 8-18-09.)

19 Section 15. The Legislative Commission Reorganization Act  
20 of 1984 is amended by changing Section 9-2.5 as follows:

21 (25 ILCS 130/9-2.5)

22 Sec. 9-2.5. Newsletters and brochures. The Legislative  
23 Printing Unit may not print for any member of the General  
24 Assembly any newsletters or brochures during the period

1 beginning February 1 ~~December 15~~ of the year of preceeding a  
2 general primary election and ending the day after the general  
3 primary election and during a period beginning September 1 of  
4 the year of a general election and ending the day after the  
5 general election. A member of the General Assembly may not  
6 mail, during a period beginning February 1 ~~December 15~~ of the  
7 year of preceeding a general primary election and ending the day  
8 after the general primary election and during a period  
9 beginning September 1 of the year of a general election and  
10 ending the day after the general election, any newsletters or  
11 brochures that were printed, at any time, by the Legislative  
12 Printing Unit, except that such a newsletter or brochure may be  
13 mailed during those times if it is mailed to a constituent in  
14 response to that constituent's inquiry concerning the needs of  
15 that constituent or questions raised by that constituent.

16 (Source: P.A. 95-6, eff. 6-20-07.)