

REG 2011-12-08 NO. 1265: Statutory Regulations pertaining to Remuneration of Members of the Storting (the Storting Remuneration Regulations)

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¹ The Constitution – Translator.

Statutory Regulations pertaining to Remuneration of Members of the Storting (the Storting Remuneration Regulations)

Authority: Adopted by the Storting on 8 December 2011, confer Recommendation to the Storting 90 S (2011-2012)

Amendments: Amended 1 October 2013 by Statutory Amendment No. 578 of 3 June 2013

Section 1 *Area of Application of the Regulations*

The rules in these statutory regulations shall apply to elected Members of the Storting. The rules shall also apply to temporary Substitute Members and permanent Substitute Members unless otherwise specified.

Section 2 *Remuneration of temporary Substitute Members*

Temporary Substitute Members shall be entitled to remuneration pursuant to Section 3 of the Storting Remuneration Act and can moreover, by application to the Presidium, be given the right to retain the remuneration in periods in which they are not called in, in the following cases:

- a) In periods without sittings in the Stortinget, when the Substitute Member attends for a representative who must be expected to continue his absence also after the period in question,
- b) For the rest of the calendar year after the last day of calling-in before Christmas if the Substitute Member has attended for at least two months in the session and has no other income in the period for which he or she is applying to retain the remuneration,
- c) Other special cases.

Applications for remuneration in the cases described in the first paragraph a) and b) shall be decided by the Storting Administration. Other applications shall be decided by the Presidium of the Storting.

Section 3 *Reimbursement of Travel and Accommodation Expenses on Official Trips*

Members who undertake official trips in connection with the exercise of their duties in the Stortinget, at home and abroad, shall have their travel expenses reimbursed in accordance with the rules of the ordinary government travel allowance scale and guidelines on travel allowances for Members of the Storting issued by the Presidium of the Storting on the authority of Section 11 first paragraph and under the rules of this Section. In connection with official trips abroad, reimbursement may only be claimed for documented accommodation expenses. Expenses in connection with reception/entertainment assignments may be claimed in accordance with detailed rules laid down by the Presidium of the Storting.

Official trips abroad in connection with the activity of the regular parliamentary delegations shall be approved by the delegation leader, and all other official trips abroad by the Presidium.

The Presidium of the Storting may decide that Members on official trips may be reimbursed necessary extra expenses for childcare, if necessary travel and subsistence for a single child carer, provided that the trip is necessary for the Member to fulfil his or her core functions as a Member of the Storting. This shall apply until the child's first birthday. Lost income for a companion shall not be covered.

As a main rule, reimbursement of the travel expenses of a Member's companion on an official trip cannot be claimed. When it is necessary to fulfil the functions of a Member of the Storting, however, the Presidium of the Storting may following an application decide that such expenses may be reimbursed, wholly or in part.

In the event of sickness or injury, the Members may be reimbursed special expenses for transportation to and from the Storting.

(Translated from the Lovdata database)

The Members shall be entitled to coverage of travel expenses in connection with arrangements held by their own party organisation if this arrangement is relevant to the office of Member of the Storting.

Section 4 *Reimbursement of Expenses in connection with Absence from Home*
(From October 2013)

The Storting shall be deemed to be the fixed place of work of the Members. Work-related travel between the Storting and the place of residence (whether private or official residence) shall be regarded as private travel and in principle be covered by the Member himself or herself. Temporary Substitute Members shall be reimbursed documented expenses for accommodation in their period of service.

The Members may be reimbursed for their travel to and from the Storting on taking up and ceasing their term of office, and the opening and prorogation of legislative sessions. The scheme shall apply to Members and permanent Substitute Members and temporary Substitute Members who live more than 40 km from the Storting.

The Members may be reimbursed travel expenses between the Storting or official residence and the Members' home up to once a week. Members with children aged from 0 to 19 years who are living at home shall have reimbursement of expenses for up to one extra home trip per week. These schemes shall apply to Members and permanent Substitute Members, plus temporary Substitute Members who have been called in for a period of more than one whole week.

In the event of leave on grounds of sickness, injury or on compassionate grounds, the Members may be reimbursed travel expenses to their homes or other place of stay within Norway, and thence back to the Storting again.

In use of one's own car for travel under this Section, mileage shall be covered under the rates of Section 6 of the special government scale for domestic travel.

0 Amended 1 October 2013 by Statutory Regulations No. 578 of 3 June 2013.

(Translated from the Lovdata database)

Section 5 *Reimbursement of Moving Expenses*

The Members can be reimbursed necessary moving expenses on taking up and ceasing their term of office in the Storting in accordance with detailed provisions laid down by the Presidium of the Storting. Temporary Substitute Members are not entitled to reimbursement of moving expenses.

Moving from one of the Storting's official residences to another residence must be performed and paid for by the Members themselves.

Section 6 *Reimbursement of Expenses for Visits by Members' Families*

The Members may be reimbursed travel expenses between their homes and Oslo for members of the Members' households plus their own children under 18. As members of households is meant spouse, cohabitant and children. The scheme covers up to two visits per entitled person per year of the legislative session, for Members who live more than 40 km from Oslo. Members who have sole parental responsibility may in addition be reimbursed for the travel expenses of an accompanying adult until the child's twelfth birthday.

Temporary Substitute Members who have served in all six months or more in the course of a calendar year shall be entitled to family visits within the meaning of the first paragraph.

Section 7 *Reimbursement of Substitute Members' Expenses in consequence of Care of Children*

The Presidium of the Storting may in special cases decide that a temporary Substitute Member shall be reimbursed necessary and documented expenses in consequence of care of children. The Storting's Administration may decide open-and-shut cases under this provision.

(Translated from the Lovdata database)

Section 8 *Advances on Remuneration or Reimbursement*

The Members may in special cases be given up to two months' remuneration disbursed in advance. The criteria for the right to an advance and the rules for its repayment shall be the same as for government employees, confer the Main Tariff Agreement's provision on this. The Storting's Administration shall be empowered to grant such advances.

Necessary advances on travel expenses shall be authorised in accordance with the government's special agreement for travel.

Section 9 *Lapsing and Reduction of Severance Remuneration and Termination Allowance*

If the Member has other taxable income in the period of benefits, the severance remuneration and termination allowance shall lapse or be reduced in accordance with the following rules:

- a) Gross income from a full position (at least 30 hours a week), or full pension, shall cause the lapsing of the entire benefit for the period in which the income is being earned.

- b) The benefit shall otherwise be reduced, krone for krone, by other income in the benefit period, including gross salary and pension income and net self-employed income. The benefit shall nevertheless not be reduced if other income in the entire period of the benefit (severance remuneration and termination allowance taken together) does not exceed NOK 5,000. Should the income exceed NOK 5,000, the whole amount shall be subject to reduction.

- c) Income earned abroad, or in Norway from an international organisation, shall be accounted as income within the meaning of b) even if the income is tax-free in Norway.

Section 10 *Requirement of Active Job Search etc. in period of Termination Allowance*

The right to Termination Allowance under Section 9 of the Storting Remuneration Act is reserved to recipients who can document that they are actively seeking work or are undertaking the necessary relevant expertise enhancement. The Presidium of the Storting can issue detailed guidelines on this, including documentation requirements etc.

Section 11 *Further Provisions and Reimbursement of Other Benefits and Expenses*

The Presidium of the Storting may issue further provisions on reimbursement of expenses under these statutory regulations.

The Presidium of the Storting may also issue further provisions on reimbursement of other kinds of expenses, including telephone expenses, and other kinds of benefit of a limited scope.

Section 12 *Entry into Force*

The statutory regulations shall enter into force on 1 January 2012

Guidelines on travel allowances for Members of the Storting, adopted by the Presidium of the Storting on 11 June 2009 on the authority of Sections 3 and 4 of the provisions on remuneration of Members of the Storting laid down by the Storting on 10 November 1966 No. 4856 shall continue to apply, with the alterations and

clarifications that follow from the Storting Remuneration Act and by these statutory regulations.

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