

Sec. 152.014. SALARY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE. (a) In each county there is a salary grievance committee composed of the county judge and:

(1) the sheriff, county tax assessor-collector, county treasurer, county clerk, district clerk, county attorney or criminal district attorney, and the number of public members necessary to provide nine voting members; or

(2) nine public members, if the commissioners court votes to have nine public members.

(b) The county judge is chairman of the committee, but is not entitled to vote.

(c) Public members must be residents of the county.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.
Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 326, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 131, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 2004.

Sec. 152.015. SELECTION AND TERM OF PUBLIC MEMBERS ON GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE. (a) The public members of the salary grievance committee shall be selected at a meeting of the court at any time during the year, but not later than the 15th day after the date a request for a hearing is received under Section 152.016(a). If a request for a public hearing is not received, the commissioners court is not required to select public members.

(b) Before the meeting, the county clerk shall place on a separate slip the name of each person who served on a grand jury in the county during the preceding calendar year. At the meeting the slips shall be folded, placed in an appropriate container, and mixed. The county judge shall draw at random a number of slips equal to the number of public members needed for the committee and shall announce the names on the slips. At the meeting the county judge may repeat this process and make a list of alternates. A person whose name is drawn becomes a member of the committee or an alternate on submitting written acceptance to the clerk. If a person refuses or is unable to serve on the committee, a replacement shall be appointed from the list of alternates. If the list of alternates is exhausted or does not

exist, a replacement shall be selected at the next regular or called commissioners court meeting by random selection of a slip from the remaining slips. This process shall be repeated until the required number of public members is selected.

(c) A public member serves until the later of:

(1) the end of the fiscal year in which the public member is appointed; or

(2) the time the committee takes a final vote on the last of the grievances for which the committee held a public hearing.

(d) A vacancy in a public member position shall be filled for the unexpired part of the term by appointment from the list of alternates. If the list of alternates is exhausted or does not exist, a replacement shall be filled by random selection of a slip from the remaining slips at a meeting of the commissioners court.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.
Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 326, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 131, Sec. 2, eff. Jan. 1, 2004; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1021, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

Sec. 152.016. FUNCTIONS OF GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO ELECTED OFFICERS. (a) An elected county or precinct officer who is aggrieved by the setting of the officer's salary or personal expenses may request a hearing before the salary grievance committee before the approval of the county's annual budget. The request must:

(1) be in writing;

(2) be delivered to the committee chairman within five days after the date the officer receives notice of the salary or personal expenses; and

(3) state the desired change in salary or personal expenses.

(b) The committee shall hold a public hearing not later than the later of the 10th day after:

(1) the date the request is received; or

(2) the date the commissioners court selects the public members of the committee.

(b-1) The chairman shall announce the time and place of the hearing.

(c) If, after the hearing, six or more of the members vote to recommend an increase in the officer's salary or personal expenses, the committee shall submit its recommendation to the commissioners court in writing. If six to eight members vote to recommend the increase, the commissioners court shall consider the recommendation at its next meeting. If nine members vote to recommend the increase and sign the recommendation, the commissioners court shall include the increase in the budget before the budget is filed and the increase takes effect in the next budget year.

(d) The committee's authority is limited to the consideration of increases in the salaries or personal expenses of county and precinct officers. The committee may not set policy of the county or add new items to a proposed county budget.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.
Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 326, Sec. 3, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 131, Sec. 3, eff. Jan. 1, 2004.

Sec. 152.0165. EXHAUSTION OF REMEDIES BEFORE FILING SUIT REGARDING GRIEVANCE. (a) An elected county or precinct officer may not file suit regarding the officer's salary or personal expenses unless a hearing has been requested and held under Section 152.016.

(b) This section does not affect a defense, immunity, or jurisdictional bar available to a county or a county official or employee that is sued by a county or precinct officer based on the officer's salary, office and travel expenses, or other allowances.

Added by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 439, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

Sec. 152.017. EXCEPTIONS. This subchapter does not apply to:

(1) a judge of a court of record;

(2) a presiding judge of a commissioners court in a county with a population of 3.3 million or more;

(3) a district attorney paid wholly by state funds or the district attorney's assistants, investigators, or other employees;

(4) a county auditor, county purchasing agent, or the auditor's or purchasing agent's assistants or other employees; or

(5) a person employed under Section 76.004, Government Code.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

Amended by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 597, Sec. 89, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

Amended by:

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1163 (H.B. 2702), Sec. 70, eff. September 1, 2011.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 770 (H.B. 2299), Sec. 2.76, eff. January 1, 2017.

Sec. 152.018. FORMER PROCEDURES NOT AFFECTED. This subchapter does not affect a lawful procedure or delegation of authority established before January 1, 1972, for setting the salary of a county or precinct employee.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.