

Chapter 2.105 CITIZENS' COMMISSION ON SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

2.105.010 Definitions.

In this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise,

(1) "Commission" means the Snohomish county citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials created by [SCC 2.105.025](#).

(2) "Elected officials" means the county council, executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff, and treasurer.

(3) "Immediate family member" means a parent, spouse, sibling, child, or dependent relative of the officer, official, or employee, whether or not living in the same household.

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.020 Creation and purpose

(Added Ord. 97-001, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Repealed by Ord. 07-053 on June 27 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.025 Creation and purpose.

The Snohomish county citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials is hereby established as an independent county commission. The purpose of the commission shall be to fix the salaries of the county council, executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer in accordance with this chapter, the county charter and state law.

(Added Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.030 Duties of commission.

The commission shall study the relationship of salaries to the duties of the elected officials and shall fix the salary for each position in accordance with [charter section 6.120](#), chapter 36.17 RCW and this chapter. Except as provided in this chapter, the

commission shall be solely responsible for its own organization, and shall enjoy the fullest cooperation of all elected officials, departments, and agencies of the county. Staff support shall be provided by the county executive.

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Amended Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.040 Eligibility and appointment.

(1) The commission shall consist of ten members, nominated by the county executive and confirmed by the county council in accordance with the county charter and this section. The members of the commission may not include any officer, official, or employee of the county or any of their immediate family members.

(2) Six of the ten commission members shall be selected by lot by the county auditor from among those registered voters eligible to vote at the time persons are selected for appointment to full terms on the commission. Of these six commission members, one shall be selected from each county council district established under [chapter 1.08](#) SCC and one shall be selected without reference to a county council district. The county auditor shall establish policies and procedures for conducting the selection by lot. The policies and procedures shall include, but not be limited to, those for notifying persons selected and for providing a new selection if a person selected under this subsection declines appointment to the commission or if, following the person's appointment, the person's position on the commission becomes vacant before the end of the person's term of office. The county auditor shall forward the names of persons selected under this subsection to the county executive who shall nominate those persons to the commission. Nominations made by the county executive under this subsection shall be confirmed by the county council.

(3) The remaining four of the ten commission members must be residents of the county and shall be nominated by the county executive and confirmed by the county council. The persons selected under this subsection shall have had experience in the field of personnel management. Of these four members, one shall be selected from each of the following four sectors in the county: business, professional personnel management, legal profession, and organized labor. The county council may confirm or reject nominations made under this subsection. If the council rejects a nomination the county executive shall promptly nominate another person meeting the requirements of this subsection.

(4) The members of the commission shall serve two-year terms ending December 31, 2009, and every two years thereafter. No person may be appointed to more than two terms. Notwithstanding [SCC 2.03.080](#), members of the commission may be removed by the county executive, with the approval of the county council, only for cause of incapacity, incompetence, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, or for a disqualifying change of eligibility. Upon a vacancy in any position on the commission, a successor shall be nominated and confirmed to fill the unexpired term. The nomination and confirmation shall be concluded within thirty days of the date the position becomes vacant and shall be conducted in the same manner as the original appointment.

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.050 Meetings and operation.

(1) All business of the commission shall be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW. The commission shall meet biennially as provided in [charter section 6.120](#).

(2) The members of the commission shall elect a chair from among their number.

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.060 Salary schedules.

(1) The commission shall prepare and file a schedule of salaries for the elected officials for the succeeding two calendar years with the county council and county auditor no later than May 1, 2008, and no later than May 1 every two years thereafter. The signature of the chair of the commission shall be affixed to each salary schedule filed by the commission. The chair of the commission shall certify that the salary schedule has been prepared and filed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, [charter section 6.120](#), and the rules, if any, of the commission.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, the salary schedule prepared and filed by the commission in accordance with this section shall become effective January 1 of the following calendar year and incorporated into the county budget without further action by the county council, county executive, or commission, provided that salary decreases established by the commission shall become effective as to incumbent elected officials at the commencement of their next subsequent terms of office. Salary increases established by the commission shall become effective as to all elected officials regardless of their terms of office.

(3) Salary increases and decreases shall be subject to referendum as provided in [SCC 2.105.080](#) and [charter section 6.120](#).

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.070 Compensation.

Members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but may receive reimbursement for mileage to and from meetings and for other expenses directly related to their service as may be approved by the county executive in accordance with [chapter 2.03](#) SCC.

(Added Ord. 97-001, § 1, Feb. 5, 1997, Eff date Feb. 16, 1997; Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007).

2.105.080 Referendum.

(1) Salary changes fixed by the commission shall be subject to referendum in the same manner as a county ordinance except as otherwise provided in RCW 36.17.024. Referendum petitions shall be prepared and processed in accordance with [charter section 5.80](#), except that pursuant to RCW 36.17.024 petitions containing the signatures of registered voters of the county equal in number to not less than five percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last governor's election must be filed within thirty days after filing of the salary schedule.

(2) After the filing of a referendum petition the salary changes shall be suspended until approved by the voters as provided in [charter section 5.80](#). If the voters fail to approve the salary changes for a two year biennium the commission may prepare and file a schedule of salaries for the second year of the biennium no later than May 1 of the first year of the biennium, which shall be prepared and filed and take effect as provided in [SCC 2.105.060](#).

(Added Ord. 07-053, June 27, 2007, Eff date July 9, 2007)

Code Reviser's Note: Pursuant to Section 15 of Ordinance No. 07-053, Chapter 2.105 is repealed, effective on June 29, 2013 unless re-enacted prior to that date as provided in Snohomish County Charter 2.115.