

## **ACT 2011-12-16 NO. 61: Act pertaining to Remuneration of Members of the Storting (the Storting Remuneration Act)**

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## **Act pertaining to Remuneration of Members of the Storting (the Storting Remuneration Act)**

Confer *previous* Act No. 11 of 30 June 1954.

### **Section 1**      *Area of Application and Definitions*

The provisions of the present Act shall apply to elected Members of the Storting and to permanent Substitute Members and temporary Substitute Members, unless stipulated otherwise.

As permanently attending shall be counted Substitute Members attending on behalf of Members of the Storting who have been appointed as Ministers of the Crown, state secretaries or political advisors in the Government, or on behalf of Members of the Storting who are deceased. Other Substitute Members are in the present Act termed temporary Substitute Members.

### **Section 2**      *The Storting Salary Commission*

The remuneration that pursuant to Article 65 of the Constitution shall accrue to Members of the Storting and permanent Substitute Members shall be stipulated by the Storting following a recommendation of the Storting Salary Commission, under the rules promulgated in or pursuant to the present Act.

The Presidium of the Storting shall appoint the chair and two other members of the Storting Salary Commission, to sit for four years. The Storting Salary Commission shall be quorate when all the members are present. The Presidium of the Storting may issue detailed rules to govern the activity of the Salary Commission.

### **Section 3**      *The Remuneration of the Members of the Storting*

The same remuneration shall be stipulated for all Members of the Storting, with the exceptions stated by the present Act. The remuneration shall be stated as an annual figure.

The President of the Storting shall have the same remuneration as the Prime Minister.

Temporary Substitute Members shall have the same remuneration as the Members of the Storting for the days or the period for which they have been called in to attend. Temporary Substitute Members shall in addition have compensation for each day, or part of a day in excess of six hours, required for travel to and from the Storting and falling outside those days on which the Member attends the Storting.

For elected Members of the Storting and Substitute Members, one-twelfth of the annual remuneration shall be disbursed each month. The earned remuneration of temporary Substitute Members shall be paid monthly.

#### **Section 4**      *Supplementary Remuneration*

The First Vice President of the Storting shall enjoy a supplementary remuneration of 14% of the annual remuneration as stated in Section 3 first paragraph. The other vice presidents shall enjoy a supplementary remuneration of 7% of the annual remuneration as stated in Section 3 first paragraph.

The chairs of the Storting's standing committees shall enjoy a supplementary remuneration of 7% of the annual remuneration as stated in Section 3 first paragraph. Whosoever acts as chair for more than five days when the chair has leave of absence from the Storting shall enjoy the same supplementary remuneration as the chair for the period as acting chair.

#### **Section 5**      *Remuneration During Leave of Absence*

During leave of absence from the Storting, the Members shall retain the remuneration for up to 14 days, unless they announce that they renounce such remuneration.

During maternity and paternity leave<sup>1</sup>, carer leave and leave occasioned by the sickness of children or their carers, the Members shall be entitled to retain the remuneration in accordance with the corresponding rules for public employees under Chapter 12 of the Worker Protection and Working Environment Act, Chapter 14 of the National Insurance Act and the rules of the Main Tariff Agreement for government employees regarding paid leave during pregnancy, birth, adoption, breast-feeding and the sickness of children and their carers. This shall also apply to temporary Substitute Members for the period they are called in to serve, confer Section 3 third paragraph first period of the present Act.

The Presidium of the Storting may on application decide that a Member shall retain his or her remuneration beyond 14 days in the following cases:

- a) in the event of leave of absence due to sickness or injury of the Member.
- b) in the event of leave of absence for participation in a trip as a member of a delegation appointed by the Storting or its Presidium.
- c) in the event of leave of absence to participate in meetings or perform other assignments by appointment of the King, the Storting or a Ministry.

In the event of compassionate leave, the Presidium of the Storting may in special cases, following a reasoned application, determine that the remuneration shall be retained wholly or in part for a limited period in excess of 14 days.

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<sup>1</sup> The Norwegian has various terms here, for pregnancy, birth, post-partum etc., which are subsumed under the English term maternity leave – Translator.

A medical certificate must be submitted together with an application for sick leave, or as soon as possible after the leave has been granted. In the event of non-compliance, the Presidium of the Storting may determine that the Member's remuneration shall lapse for the remaining period of the leave of absence.

**Section 6**      *Reimbursement of Travel Expenses etc. on Official Business*

Members who undertake travel in connection with the duties in the Stortinget, at home or abroad, shall have reimbursement of their travel expenses in accordance with detailed provisions laid down by the Storting.

Members may ask for authorisation of an advance to cover official travel in accordance with detailed provisions laid down by the Storting.

**Section 7**      *Reimbursement of Other Expenses in connection with Absence from Home*

The Storting may issue detailed rules for reimbursement of expenses for commuting, moving house, trips home and other special expenses in connection with the Members' absence from their homes.

**Section 8**      *Severance remuneration*

Members of the Storting and permanent Substitute Members who, following an election, are not continuing to sit in the Storting, may on application to the Presidium be granted severance remuneration corresponding to monthly remuneration under Section 3 first paragraph, for up to three months. The supplementary remuneration under Section 4, or increased remuneration of the President of the Storting under Section 3 second paragraph, shall not be part of the basis for final benefits. The rules of this paragraph shall have corresponding application for permanent Substitute Members who leave the Storting in the course of the Parliament (election period).

The Presidium of the Storting may, following application, decide that temporary Substitute Members who have attended for an unbroken period of at least 12 months of a Parliament shall be granted severance remuneration under the first paragraph. In special cases the Presidium may, following application, decide that a temporary Substitute Member shall be granted severance remuneration for up to one month even after a briefer period of attendance.

Severance remuneration cannot be granted for more than a total of three months in the course of the same Parliament.

Severance remuneration may lapse or be reduced by the amount of other income. The Storting may lay down detailed rules on this.

#### **Section 9**      *Termination Allowance*

Members of the Storting and permanent Substitute Members who, following an election, cease to sit in the Storting may, upon application to the Presidium, be granted Termination Allowance for up to twelve months after the end of the granted final benefits. The Termination Allowance shall be 66 per cent of the Member of the Storting' remuneration under Section 3 first paragraph. Supplementary remuneration under Section 4, or increased remuneration of the President of the Storting under Section 3 second paragraph, shall not be part of the basis for Termination Allowance.

The Termination Allowance may lapse or be reduced by the amount of other income. The Storting may lay down detailed rules on this. The Storting may also stipulate conditions for active job search and education in the period of the Termination Allowance.

#### **Section 10**    *Holiday remuneration*

Members of the Storting who, following an election, cease to sit in the Storting, in January of the following year shall be disbursed holiday remuneration in accordance with the rates laid down by the Main Tariff Agreement for government employees. The basis for holiday remuneration shall be calculated on the basis of remuneration disbursed in the last calendar year of the parliament, including any severance remuneration under Section 8 of the present Act. This paragraph shall have corresponding application to permanent Substitute Members who cease their term of office between 1 July and 31 December.

The first paragraph shall not apply to Members of the Storting who enter the Government.

Temporary Substitute Members shall, on their last ordinary disbursement day before the parliamentary recess in June, receive holiday remuneration under the rates laid down in the Main Tariff Agreement for government employees. The basis for holiday remuneration shall be calculated on the basis of the remuneration disbursed in the preceding calendar year. This paragraph shall have corresponding application to permanent Substitute Members who cease their term of office between 1 January and 30 June.

Holiday remuneration shall nevertheless not be disbursed to temporary Substitute Members who, by decision of the Presidium of the Storting, retain their remuneration for the period after the Storting has gone into recess in June. These shall have their holiday remuneration calculated under the first paragraph, with disbursement in January in the year after stepping down as temporary Substitute Member.

The Storting may issue further provisions on calculation and disbursement of holiday remuneration.

Amended by Act No. 65 of 21 June 2013 (in force 1 October 2013).

**Section 11** *Benefits in connection with the Member's Death in Office*

True Translation Certified - Government Authorized Translator

*(Translated from the Lovdata database)*

Should a Member of the Storting or permanent Substitute Member die in the course of the parliament, his or her survivors shall be disbursed the Member's remuneration for the entire month of death plus the three following months. In addition, the necessary expenses of the Member's funeral shall be covered.

Should a temporary Substitute Member die during the journey to or from the Storting or in the period for which he or she has been called in, the necessary expenses of the Substitute Member's funeral shall be covered.

**Section 11 a** *Obtaining of Information*

Added by Act No. 65 of 21 June 2013 (in force 1 October 2013).

**Section 12** *Entry into Force and Transitional Rules*

The Act shall enter into force on 1 January 2012.

From the same date Act No. 11 of 30 June 1954 on Remuneration of Members of the Storting shall be repealed.

Statutory Regulations on Remuneration of Members of the Storting, adopted on 8 December 2011 on the authority of Section 1 of Act No. 11 of 30 June 1954 on Remuneration of Members of the Storting, shall continue to apply after this present Act has entered into force.

Last update of the database 5 July 2013.