
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1390 (Solache) - Public school governance: board member compensation

Version: March 17, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 30, 2025

Policy Vote: ED. 5 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill increases the maximum monthly compensation that may be provided to the governing board members of school districts and county boards of education.

Fiscal Impact: By increasing the maximum monthly compensation amounts for school district and county board members, this bill could result in additional Proposition 98 costs for local educational agencies (LEA) to provide the compensation increases. While a precise amount is unknown and could vary by LEA, statewide costs could be in the millions of dollars each year. This could potentially create additional cost pressures for the state to backfill these costs.

Background: Existing law authorizes the board of supervisors to allow, as compensation, to each regular member of the county board of education a sum not to exceed specified amounts depending on the average daily attendance (ADA) in a particular county. Specifically, the compensations amounts are as follows:

- In any class one county (average daily attendance (ADA) of at least 750,000), each regular member of the county board of education who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$600 per month.
- In any class two county (ADA between 140,000 and 749,999), each regular member of the county board of education who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$400 per month.
- In any class three county (ADA between 60,000 and 139,999), each regular member of the county board of education who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$300 per month.
- In any class four county (ADA between 30,000 and 59,999), each regular member of the county board of education who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$200 per month.
- In any class five, class six, class seven, or class eight county (ADA of 29,999 or less), each regular member of the county board of education who actually attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's

services up to \$160 per month.

- Existing law requires the amount of compensation to be determined by the county board of supervisors, or, in a county having a fiscally independent county board of education, by the county board of education, and authorizes the county board of education, on an annual basis, to increase the compensation of individual regular members of the board beyond the limits delineated in this section, in an amount not to exceed 5% based on the present monthly rate of compensation.

Existing law authorizes each regular member of a school district governing board to receive compensation as follows:

- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year exceeded 250,000, each regular member of the governing board who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services a salary as set forth by the local city charter law or applicable rules and regulations and as determined by a local compensation review committee.
- In a school district that is not located in a city and county, and in which the ADA for the prior school year exceeded 60,000, the governing board may prescribe, as compensation for the services of each regular member of the board who attends all meetings held, up to \$1,500 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year between 25,000 and 60,000, each regular member of the city board of education or the governing board of the school district who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$750 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 10,000 and 25,000, each regular member of the city board of education or the governing board of the school district who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$400 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 1,000 and 10,000, each regular member of the city board of education or the governing board of the school district who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$240 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 150 and 1,000, each regular member of the city board of education or the governing board of the school district who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's up to \$120 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was less than 150, each regular member of the city board of education or the governing board of the school district who attends all meetings held may receive as compensation for the regular member's services up to \$60 per month.

Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district, on an annual basis, to increase the compensation of regular members beyond the limits delineated in law, in an amount not to exceed 5% based on the present monthly rate of compensation.

Proposed Law: This bill increases the maximum monthly compensation by five times that may be provided to the governing board members of school districts and county boards of education who attend all meetings as follows:

For county school board members:

- In any class one county (ADA of at least 750,000), from a maximum of \$600 per month to a maximum of \$3,000 per month.
- In any class two county (between 140,000 and 749,999 ADA), from a maximum of \$400 to a maximum of \$2,000 per month.
- In any class three county (between 60,000 and 139,999 ADA), from a maximum of \$300 to a maximum of \$1,500 per month.
- In any class four county (between 30,000 and 59,999 ADA), from a maximum of \$200 to a maximum of \$1,000 per month.
- In any class five, class six, class seven, or class eight county (ADA of 29,999 or less), from a maximum of \$160 to a maximum of \$800 per month.

For school district board members:

- In a school district that is not located in a city and county, and in which the ADA for the prior school year exceeded 60,000, from a maximum of \$1,500 to a maximum of \$7,500 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 25,000 and 60,000, from a maximum of \$750 to a maximum of \$3,750 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 10,000 and 25,000, from a maximum of \$400 to a maximum of \$2,000 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 1,000 and 10,000, from a maximum of \$240 to a maximum of \$1,200 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was between 150 and 1,000, from a maximum of \$120 to a maximum of \$600 in any month.
- In a school district in which the ADA for the prior school year was less than 150, from a maximum of \$60 to a maximum of \$300 per month.

Staff Comments: The current levels of compensation for school board members ranges from \$1,500 to \$60 per month (other than for LAUSD board members). The current levels of compensation for county board members range from \$600 to \$160 per month. While these amounts may increase by up to 5% annually, the amounts in statute were last increased in 1984. This bill increases the maximum monthly compensation by five times that may be provided to the governing board members of school districts and county boards of education who attend all meetings. According to the author, the updated figures were calculated to reflect five times the current monthly rates, approximately halfway between the inflation-adjusted amounts and what the amounts would be if a district had raised their compensation by the authorized 5% each year.

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