

HOUSE BILL 241

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO COUNTIES; INCREASING THE SALARY CAPS APPLICABLE TO
ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS; PROVIDING FOR A CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ESCALATOR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 4-44-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957,
Chapter 196, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"4-44-4. CLASS A COUNTIES--SALARIES.--Except as provided
in Section 5 of this 2024 act, the annual salaries of elected
officers of a class A county shall not exceed, for:

A. county commissioners, [~~thirty-nine thousand one
hundred six dollars (\$39,106)~~] forty-nine thousand four hundred
eighty-two dollars (\$49,482) each;

B. treasurer, [~~eighty-six thousand six hundred
twenty-six dollars (\$86,626)~~] one hundred nine thousand six

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1 hundred ten dollars (\$109,610);

2 C. assessor, [~~eighty-six thousand six hundred~~
3 ~~twenty-six dollars (\$86,626)~~] one hundred nine thousand six
4 hundred ten dollars (\$109,610);

5 D. sheriff, [~~ninety thousand three hundred thirty-~~
6 ~~eight dollars (\$90,338)~~] one hundred fourteen thousand three
7 hundred six dollars (\$114,306);

8 E. county clerk, [~~eighty-six thousand six hundred~~
9 ~~twenty-six dollars (\$86,626)~~] one hundred nine thousand six
10 hundred ten dollars (\$109,610); and

11 F. probate judge, [~~thirty-eight thousand one~~
12 ~~hundred fourteen dollars (\$38,114)~~] forty-eight thousand two
13 hundred twenty-six dollars (\$48,226)."

14 SECTION 2. Section 4-44-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,
15 Chapter 67, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

16 "4-44-4.1. CLASS B COUNTIES--HIGH VALUATION--SALARIES.--
17 Except as provided in Section 5 of this 2024 act, the annual
18 salaries of elected officers of a class B county with an
19 assessed valuation of over three hundred million dollars
20 (\$300,000,000) shall not exceed, for:

21 A. county commissioners, [~~thirty thousand one~~
22 ~~hundred ninety-six dollars (\$30,196)~~] thirty-eight thousand two
23 hundred eight dollars (\$38,208) each;

24 B. treasurer, [~~seventy-five thousand seven hundred~~
25 ~~thirty-three dollars (\$75,733)~~] ninety-five thousand eight

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1 hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826);

2 C. assessor, [~~seventy-five thousand seven hundred~~
3 ~~thirty-three dollars (\$75,733)] ninety-five thousand eight
4 hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826);~~

5 D. sheriff, [~~seventy-eight thousand nine hundred~~
6 ~~fifty-two dollars (\$78,952)] ninety-nine thousand eight hundred
7 ninety-nine dollars (\$99,899);~~

8 E. county clerk, [~~seventy-five thousand seven~~
9 ~~hundred thirty-three dollars (\$75,733)] ninety-five thousand
10 eight hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826); and~~

11 F. probate judge, [~~twenty-six thousand four hundred~~
12 ~~eighty-two dollars (\$26,482)] thirty-three thousand five
13 hundred eight dollars (\$33,508)."~~

14 SECTION 3. Section 4-44-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957,
15 Chapter 196, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

16 "4-44-5. CLASS B COUNTIES--INTERMEDIATE VALUATION--
17 SALARIES.--Except as provided in Section 5 of this 2024 act,
18 the annual salaries of elected officers of a class B county
19 with an assessed valuation of over seventy-five million dollars
20 (\$75,000,000) but under three hundred million dollars
21 (\$300,000,000) shall not exceed, for:

22 A. county commissioners, [~~twenty-one thousand five~~
23 ~~hundred thirty-four dollars (\$21,534)] twenty-seven thousand
24 two hundred forty-seven dollars (\$27,247) each;~~

25 B. treasurer, [~~sixty-four thousand eight hundred~~

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1 ~~forty-four dollars (\$64,844)]~~ eighty-two thousand forty-eight
2 dollars (\$82,048);

3 C. assessor, [~~sixty-four thousand eight hundred~~
4 ~~forty-four dollars (\$64,844)]~~ eighty-two thousand forty-eight
5 dollars (\$82,048);

6 D. sheriff, [~~sixty-seven thousand eight hundred~~
7 ~~fourteen dollars (\$67,814)]~~ eighty-five thousand eight hundred
8 six dollars (\$85,806);

9 E. county clerk, [~~sixty-four thousand eight hundred~~
10 ~~forty-four dollars (\$64,844)]~~ eighty-two thousand forty-eight
11 dollars (\$82,048); and

12 F. probate judge, [~~fifteen thousand ninety-eight~~
13 ~~dollars (\$15,098)]~~ nineteen thousand one hundred four dollars
14 (\$19,104)."

15 SECTION 4. Section 4-44-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1955,
16 Chapter 4, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

17 "4-44-14. H CLASS COUNTIES--SALARIES.--

18 A. Except as provided in Section 5 of this 2024
19 act, the annual salaries of elected or appointed part-time
20 officers of an H class county shall not exceed, for:

21 (1) county commissioners, [~~fifteen thousand~~
22 ~~eight hundred forty-four dollars (\$15,844)]~~ twenty thousand
23 forty-eight dollars (\$20,048) each;

24 (2) treasurer, [~~seven thousand nine hundred~~
25 ~~twenty-two dollars (\$7,922)]~~ ten thousand twenty-four dollars

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1 (\$10,024);

2 (3) assessor, [~~seven thousand nine hundred~~
3 ~~twenty-two dollars (\$7,922)~~] ten thousand twenty-four dollars
4 (\$10,024);

5 (4) sheriff, [~~seven thousand nine hundred~~
6 ~~twenty-two dollars (\$7,922)~~] ten thousand twenty-four dollars
7 (\$10,024);

8 (5) county clerk, [~~seven thousand nine hundred~~
9 ~~twenty-two dollars (\$7,922)~~] ten thousand twenty-four dollars
10 (\$10,024); and

11 (6) probate judge, [~~four thousand six hundred~~
12 ~~thirty-six dollars (\$4,636)~~] five thousand eight hundred sixty-
13 six dollars (\$5,866).

14 B. Except as provided in Section 5 of this 2024
15 act, the annual salaries of elected or appointed full-time
16 officers of an H class county shall not exceed, for:

17 (1) treasurer, [~~seventy-five thousand seven~~
18 ~~hundred thirty-three dollars (\$75,733)~~] ninety-five thousand
19 eight hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826);

20 (2) assessor, [~~seventy-five thousand seven~~
21 ~~hundred thirty-three dollars (\$75,733)~~] ninety-five thousand
22 eight hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826);

23 (3) sheriff, [~~seventy-eight thousand nine~~
24 ~~hundred fifty-two dollars (\$78,952)~~] ninety-nine thousand eight
25 hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$99,899); and

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1 (4) county clerk, [~~seventy-five thousand seven~~
2 ~~hundred thirty three dollars (\$75,733)] ninety-five thousand
3 eight hundred twenty-six dollars (\$95,826).~~

4 C. The governing body of an H class county shall
5 designate whether each of the offices of treasurer, assessor,
6 sheriff and county clerk is part time or full time; however, a
7 change in that designation shall not take effect until the
8 first day of the term of an elected county official who takes
9 office after the change in designation is approved."

10 SECTION 5. A new section of Chapter 4, Article 44 NMSA
11 1978 is enacted to read:

12 "[NEW MATERIAL] COUNTY SALARIES--DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE--
13 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--ESCALATOR.--

14 A. On July 1, 2025 and on July 1 of each successive
15 year, the salaries provided by Sections 4-44-4, 4-44-4.1,
16 4-44-5 and 4-44-14 NMSA 1978 shall be adjusted by multiplying
17 the salaries provided in those sections as of July 1, 2024 by a
18 fraction, the numerator of which is the consumer price index of
19 the previous year and the denominator of which is the consumer
20 price index for calendar year 2023; provided that a salary
21 shall not be adjusted downward as a result of a decrease in the
22 consumer price index; and provided further that an increase
23 shall not take effect until the first day of the term of an
24 elected or appointed county official.

25 B. Upon request, the local government division of
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1 the department of finance and administration shall provide
2 assistance to counties in the calculation of the consumer price
3 index.

4 C. As used in this section, "consumer price index"
5 means the consumer price index, not seasonally adjusted, for
6 all urban consumers, United States city average for all items
7 or its successor index, as published by the United States
8 department of labor for a calendar year."

9 SECTION 6. APPLICABILITY.--An increase in a permitted
10 maximum salary provided by the provisions of this act shall not
11 take effect until the first day of the term of an elected or
12 appointed county official who takes office after the effective
13 date of this act.