

LEGISLATOR COMPENSATION

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED
OFFICER SALARIES

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Three Branches of Government

Legislative

Executive

Judicial

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Legislative Branch
112 Members

House
70 Members

Senate
42 Members

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

According to NCSL, the New Mexico Legislative Branch is the only unpaid Legislature in the U.S.

Range is from a high of \$114,877 for California to a low of \$100 for New Hampshire.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Regional Comparisons:

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| Arizona | \$ 24,000/year |
| Colorado | \$ 40,242/year |
| New Mexico | \$ 0/year |
| Texas | \$ 7,200/year |

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

NOTE:

Per Diem in Texas is reported as follows by NCSL:

“\$221/day. Set by ethics commission. Unvouchered.”

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Plural Executive Branch
7 Officers

Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

Attorney General

State Treasurer

Land Commissioner

State Auditor

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Salaries for the Plural Executive are set in NMSA 1978, Section 8-1-1, except for the Lieutenant Governor, whose salary is set in Section 8-3-3.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

The last time Section 8-1-1 & 8-3-3 were amended was in 2002.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Gary Johnson was still Governor.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Governor | \$ 110,000 |
| Lt. Governor | \$ 85,000 |
| Secretary of State | \$ 85,000 |
| State Auditor | \$ 85,000 |
| State Treasurer | \$ 85,000 |
| Attorney General | \$ 95,000 |
| Land Commissioner | \$ 90,000 |

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Judicial Branch
177 Officers

Supreme Court
5 Justices

Court of Appeals
10 Judges

District Court
96 Judges

Magistrate Court
66 Judges

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

According to NCSC:

| Court | Rank | Salary | Mean |
|-------------------|------|------------|------------|
| Supreme Court | 48 | \$ 153,394 | \$ 183,939 |
| Ct. of Appeals | 39 | \$ 145,725 | \$ 177,633 |
| District Court | 47 | \$ 138,438 | \$ 163,110 |
| District Attorney | | \$ 125,839 | |

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

According to LawyerSalary.org:

| Percentile | 50% | 75% | 90% |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Annual Wage | \$ 90,290 | \$ 128,750 | \$ 182,710 |
| | | | |
| Dist. Atty | District Court | Ct. of Appeals | Supreme Court |
| \$ 125,839 | \$ 138,438 | \$ 145,725 | \$ 153,394 |

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

So, what's the solution?

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED
OFFICER SALARIES

.221095.2

A Joint Resolution Proposing to Amend the
Constitution of New Mexico:

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

To provide to the State Ethics Commission the sole authority to review and establish salaries every two years for all elected officers of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of state government;

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

To remove existing authority to set salaries by law
for elected officers of the executive and judicial
branches of state government;

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

To remove existing limitations on and requirements
for legislative compensation; and

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

To transfer to the supreme court the authority of the legislatively appointed members of the state ethics commission to appoint two members of different parties to the state ethics commission.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Art 5, Sec. 17: D. The state ethics commission shall review and establish the salaries of all elected state officers every two years. The salaries established by the state ethics commission shall be published no later than December 1 of each odd-numbered year and shall be effective the first full pay period of the following fiscal year.

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

The following constitutional provisions are repealed:

- A. Article 4, Section 10; (legislative compensation)
- B. Article 5, Section 12; (executive salaries)
- C. Article 6, Section 11; (justice salaries)
- D. Article 6, Section 17. (dist. judge salaries)

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

The following constitutional provisions are amended:

- A. Article 6, Section 24; (dist. atty salaries)
- B. Article 6, Section 26; (magistrate salaries)
- C. Article 6, Section 28. (ct. of appeals salaries)

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

Why is this not log rolling?

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED
OFFICER SALARIES

State ex rel. Chavez v. Vigil-Giron, et al,

1988-NMSC-103

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

¶ 9: “the main inquiry in cases such as this is not how the present Constitution, which stands to be amended, organizes its subject matter. Rather, the question to be answered is whether the legislature reasonably could have determined that a proposed amendment embraces but one object.”

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¶ 14: “In the present case, the changes proposed are germane to an overarching theme of “judicial reform.””

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

¶ 14: “We cannot ignore the rational linchpin that joins the qualifications and merit selection of judges, their numbers, their districting, and the selection of their chief administrative officers....”

DEPOLITICIZED STATE ELECTED OFFICER SALARIES

¶ 14: “Hence, we conclude that amendment 6 does not violate the provisions of Article XIX, Section 1 of the Constitution.”

QUESTIONS ?