COMMITTEE ON RULES AND LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

**Policy on Compensation Time and Timecard Policy**

**Work Hours**

The standard daily work schedule expected of full-time House employees is at least eight (8) hours of work, with a half-hour unpaid lunch period, Monday through Friday. Standard House work hours are from 8:00 to 4:30 or from 8:30 to 5:00. Planned regular work schedules of individuals may differ from this policy only with the approval of the Department Director.

The Department Director shall notify the Human Resources Director of any alternative work schedules. The LCC Legislative Plan for Employee Benefits and Policies provides that all legislative employees "are paid a salary to accomplish all available work and not for a set number of working hours each day, week, month, or year. Working hours in excess of a 40- hour week are to be expected; however, each appointing authority may establish a reasonable compensatory time policy for its employees".

**Compensatory Time**

Permanent employees of the House may elect either to: (1) work a summer hours schedule, as provided under Option 1; or (2) accrue compensatory time for excess hours worked, as provided under Option 2. Temporary employees of the House are not eligible for Option 2 and are automatically assigned to Option 1.

A permanent employee must choose between Option 1 and Option 2 annually, for the period beginning on November 1 and ending on October 31 of the following year. The election for the annual period must be made by November 1, by written notice to House Human Resources. An employee who does not make the election by November 1 will automatically be assigned for the annual period the same option as the employee elected for the forgoing annual period or, if there was no election, Option 1. Employees may not choose or change options during the annual period, except as provided in this policy.

Once during the annual period, an employee may change the option previously elected by or assigned to the employee for the annual period. The employee must make the change between March 1 and March 15, by written notice to House Human Resources. An employee who has used compensatory time accrued under Option 2 during the annual period is not eligible to make this change.

A person who is hired as a permanent employee during the annual period, or a permanent employee, who changes positions during the annual period, may elect between Option 1 and Option 2 for the remainder of the annual period. The employee must make the election by written notice to House Human Resources, within 14 calendar days following the employee's start date in the new position. A promotion within a multi-level position is not a change of position entitling the employee to make this election.

**Option 1 - Summer Hours Schedule**

Under this option, from June 1 to August 31 the standard full-time daily work hours for the employee are either from 8:00-4:00 or from 8:30-4:30, and the employee receives a half-hour paid lunch period each day that the employee works at least four hours. Alternative work schedules may be arranged in the same manner as during other times of the year.

**Option 2 - Accumulated Compensatory Time**

Under this option, on or after November 1, 2004, the employee accrues compensatory time for hours that the employee works in any pay period that are: (a) in excess of the number of full-time hours of work required in that pay period plus four (4) hours; and (b) reported on timecards each pay period, along with other hours, in accordance with House timecard policies. Compensatory time is accrued at the rate of one (1) hour of compensatory time for each one and a half (1.5) hours of qualifying additional work. The maximum amount of compensatory time that may be accrued during an annual period is 220 hours.

Compensatory time must be used during the annual period in which it is accrued and may not be carried over for use in the subsequent annual period, except that compensatory time accrued in the last pay period of an annual period may be used during the succeeding annual period. Compensatory time must be used and scheduled in the same manner as required for vacation time by the LCC Legislative Plan for Employee Benefits and Policies, except as otherwise provided in this policy. Compensatory time may not be used in increments of less than one-quarter hour.

**Timecards**

Employees shall record their time accurately on a daily basis on the timecards provided by House Human Resources, indicating the hours worked, vacation time, sick time, compensatory time, holiday(s), floating holiday(s), or acceptable time subject to the provisions of the LCC Legislative Plan for Employee Benefits and Policies. Time may not be recorded in less than one-quarter hour increments. The total of daily hours recorded for the payroll period must at least equal the number of work hours required for that period. The accrual of vacation, sick and compensatory time is based solely on these timecards.

Employees shall record on the timecards all hours worked, including hours worked away from state offices or outside of standard House work hours. An employee may record hours worked away from state offices only if the employee and supervisor have determined that doing the work away from state offices is necessary to the proper and timely discharge of the employee's essential job duties. This is not a telecommuting policy; it does not allow an employee to engage in, or a supervisor to permit a regular schedule of work away from state offices, without the approval of both the Department Director and the Director of Human Resources. An employee may not record more than eight (8) hours of work per day for attendance at a conference or seminar away from state offices, without the prior approval of both the Department Director and the Director of Human Resources.

Supervisors are responsible for the administration of this policy. Supervisors shall require that employees be current in completing their timecards in accordance with this policy. Timecards must be approved by the employee's supervisor and signed by the supervisor or the supervisor's designee.

The timecard for a pay period must be completed and approved in accordance with the provisions of this policy and submitted to House Human Resources by the end of the next succeeding pay period. If an employee's timecard is not received by Human Resources by this deadline, the employee is not in compliance with this requirement and is subject to discipline. To the extent permitted by law, the employee's check will be held until the completed and approved timecard is received in Human Resources. An employee may not accrue compensatory time for any pay period for which the employee's timecard is not completed and submitted in accordance with this policy. Compliance with this policy is mandatory.

Date adopted:

Signed:

 RYAN WINKLER, CHAIR