



Id # 11,384
RG

Senate
Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

HUGH FARMER
Chairman

January 3, 1991

KIMBERLY HERRY
Clerk

P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711
(512) 463-0385

RO-4

RECEIVED

JAN 03 91

The Honorable Dan Morales
Attorney General of Texas
Supreme Court Building
Austin, Texas 78711

Opinion Committee

Dear General Morales:

Senator Eddie Bernice Johnson wrote me to request my assistance in obtaining an Attorney General Opinion. Pursuant to this request and to the authority granted under Section 402.042(b)(7), Government Code, I would like to request an Attorney General Opinion on certain matters relating to the authority of a commissioners court to set salaries of county court at law judges and to set supplements to salaries of district court judges.

Specifically, Senator Johnson seeks answers to the following questions:

1. What authority does a commissioners court have in setting the salary of a county court at law judge and a supplement to the salary of a district judge?
2. Is there a "constitutional conflict of interest" in the commissioners court's ability to set the salary of a county court at law judge and in setting a supplement to the salary of a district judge when the judges receiving the salary and the supplement are then asked to rule on cases which directly affect the commissioners court?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to call Jason Justice, Executive Assistant to Senator Johnson, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Hugh Farmer
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson



EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
SENATOR
DISTRICT 23

Committees:
EDUCATION
FINANCE
Subcommittee:
Chair: Health and
Human Services
HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES

The Senate of
The State of Texas

September 21, 1989

CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711
512/463-0123

DISTRICT OFFICE:
400 S. Zang Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75208
214/942-0123

The Honorable Hugh Parmer
Chairman
Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Senator Parmer:

In your capacity as chairman of the Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I would urge you to officially request an opinion from the Attorney General regarding a Commissioners Court's ability to set salaries of County Court at Law Judges and supplements to salaries of District Judges.

Specifically, how much power does the Court have in this area, and is there a constitutional conflict of interest in their ability to set salaries and/or supplements to salaries when these same judges are then asked to rule on cases which directly effect the Commissioners Court?

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact my office.

Sincerely,


Eddie Bernice Johnson

EBJ/tc