Response ID ANON-KCYR-AWPT-N

Submitted to Assembly Members (Remuneration Board) Bill - Call for Evidence Submitted on 2025-02-20 13:14:26



Questions Relating to Relevant Clauses in the Bill

Clause 1

The "Remuneration Board" better reflects the purpose of the body

Select the option which best reflects your view. Listed are Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

It is nauseating to hear about salary proposals, when one considers those who have to survive on some form of benefit be in unemployment or sickness benefits, or old age pensioners who struggle to make ends meet. Shame on such a MLA who is found in agreement with the views of Mr Trevor Clarke DUP with regards to a pay upgrade!!

Many MLA's hold Committee positions and a significant number have business interests!!

Clause 2

It is appropriate for the determination of Assembly members' salaries and pensions to be determined by an independent panel/board rather than by the Assembly Commission.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Any discussion on MLA pay issues ought to be determined by an outside independent body who has no vested interest in members of Assembly. To have an MLA input is like marking one's own homework!! Very unprofessional!!

It is appropriate for the determination of adequate resources required by Members for the exercise of their functions to be determined by the Assembly Commission rather than by an independent panel/board.

Select the option which best reflects your view. Listed are Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

I am appalled at such a question!! One would have thought that no self respecting MLA would wish to be a member of such a panel as that which has a vested interest!! This is a clear conflict of interest!!

Clause 3

The independent panel/board should have regard to the salaries payable to members of other legislatures when making determinations as to the salaries payable to Members of the Assembly

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

The N. I. Assembly has not produced a programme for government that has been delivered in the Assembly never mind to the electors.

The legislatures listed above are the appropriate legislatures to consider when making such determinations

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Any salary increase ought to be very much a matter for a completely independent Committee/ Commission to discuss and make any would be proposed changes to the financial state of current MLA pay!! This body ought to be sensitive of the financial state of the electorate, many of whom struggle with increasing utility bills. Having lost the winter payment is evidence of a cutback which has left many trying to get by with reduced heat!!

Clause 4

The temporary filling of vacant positions on the board/panel should be permitted, pending the appointment of replacements.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Appointees are often yes men and women, biased from the moment of appointment.

Clause 5

Former Members of the Assembly should be permitted to sit on the panel/board.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Independent members with no past or present affiliation to elected representatives ought to be the make up of any such Committee.

Clause 6

It is appropriate for determinations to be made at least 6 months before the date of the poll for the Assembly elections.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

We deserve transparency in advance of any election, to avoid any charge of conclusion!!

Provision should be made to require determinations to be published in draft and made the subject of consultation.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Much needs to be done before any Committee issues a determination.

Consultation should be undertaken before the Board issues determinations more than once in respect of an Assembly, or otherwise than in accordance with the timing rules set out in subsection (2).

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Additional Comments and Observations

Additional Comments and Observations (including on Clauses 7 to 11)

Enter any additional comments or observations you have on the Bill, including on Clauses 7 to 11.:

I think my comments hitherto clearly indicate my dissatisfaction with the thought of an MLA salary increase.