

# HB 379 -- Compensation for Financial Institution Regulators

Sponsor: Cooper (120)

This bill exempts, from merit system rules, those positions in the divisions of Finance and Credit Unions in the Department of Economic Development which are compensated through a dedicated fund obtained from assessments and license fees used for the examination and regulation of banks, trust companies, and credit unions.

The directors of these divisions will prepare a salary schedule for those positions. A comparison with similar positions at federal regulatory agencies will be completed, and in no instance will the compensation for state examiners be more than 90% parity for the corresponding federal positions in similar geographic locations as determined by the directors. Personnel will be compensated according to the schedule.

Costs incurred in the regulation of any bank, trust company, or other corporation will be reviewed at least annually by the Division of Finance to determine whether regulatory costs are offset by the fees and charges collected. The director will revise the fees to the extent allowed by law or recommend to the General Assembly the necessary statutory changes to fully recover the costs.

Any interest earned in the dedicated funds will be used, upon appropriation, for the expenditures of the divisions in the succeeding fiscal year and will be applied to reduce the amount of the annual assessment an institution is charged.