

account of any change of salary range or compensation of any permanent positions, notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary.

Moneys appropriated under this act for the purchase of equipment shall be expended for the purposes specified in the schedules as approved by the joint committee on counties and for no other purpose.

SECTION 3. No expense incurred for mid-day meals by county officers and employees, other than those who receive as part of their compensation a noncash allowance in the form of full or complete boarding and housing, and those county officers and employees who are stationed beyond commuting distance from their homes for a period of more than twenty-four hours, shall be allowed; provided that officers or employees who have charge of juries or who have the care and custody of prisoners, insane persons or other persons placed in their charge by a court or under legal proceedings for transfer to or from court to an institution or from institution to institution and persons certified by a district attorney as engaged in investigation shall be reimbursed for the expense of mid-day meals when necessarily engaged on such duty; and provided, further, that county officers and employees in attendance at meetings and conferences called by or for any group or class on a statewide basis shall be so reimbursed.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, not more than two employees of a county may be reimbursed for meals and other expenses incurred in attendance at a meeting or conference called by or for any group or class on a statewide basis.

No moneys appropriated under this act shall be expended by county officers or employees for monthly telephone service furnished to such officers or employees at places other than regular offices.

No moneys appropriated under this act shall be approved by the county commissioners and expended by the county treasurer for any unpaid bills of previous years which were incurred prior to January first of nineteen hundred and sixty-seven.

SECTION 4. The allowance to county officers and employees for expenses incurred by them in the operation of motor vehicles owned by them or by any member of their immediate families and used in the performance of their official duties shall not exceed eight cents a mile, except in cases where a higher allowance is specifically provided by statute; provided that in the case of commitments of the insane the justice of the court ordering the commitment may order a higher rate, but not to exceed forty cents a mile one way. No expenditures shall be made for travel outside the commonwealth for attendance at conferences or conventions.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved March 30, 1968.*

**Chap. 103.** AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SECOND ASSISTANT CLERK IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF HAMPSHIRE.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. The third sentence of the first paragraph of section 10 of chapter 218 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the word "Lowell", in line 11, as appearing in chapter 813 of the acts of 1965, the words: — the district court of Hampshire.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved March 30, 1968.*