

§138. Public payroll fraud

A. Public payroll fraud is committed when:

(1) Any person shall knowingly receive any payment or compensation, or knowingly permit his name to be carried on any employment list or payroll for any payment or compensation from the state, for services not actually rendered by himself, or for services grossly inadequate for the payment or compensation received or to be received according to such employment list or payroll; or

(2) Any public officer or public employee shall carry, cause to be carried, or permit to be carried, directly or indirectly, upon the employment list or payroll of his office, the name of any person as employee, or shall pay any employee, with knowledge that such employee is receiving payment or compensation for services not actually rendered by said employee or for services grossly inadequate for such payment or compensation.

B. This Section shall not apply in the following situations:

(1) When a bona fide public officer or public employee, who is justifiably absent from his job or position for a reasonable time, continues to receive his usual compensation or a part thereof.

(2) When arrangements between firefighters to swap work or perform substitute work with or for each other is done in compliance with the provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 207(p)(3) and the associated regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations and in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the appointing authority.

C. Whoever commits the crime of public payroll fraud shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years, or both.

Acts 1997, No. 538, §1.