

June 27, 2007

Editor:

What's all the whining about? State employee salaries are public information by law. And why complain about publishing names? You can't look up an employee's salary on the State Journal's site unless you already have his name.

The Journal shouldn't have to take the heat for publishing the salaries of state employees. The State itself should have been doing so all along. Iowa and Georgia provide state employee information on their official websites and several other states routinely make the information available to news organizations.

I'd like to see a law passed that requires the State to publish the salaries not only of state employees, but of all public entities in Michigan. It wouldn't be that difficult. The State already collects wage data for school employees for the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System. And the Municipal Employees Retirement System collects wage data for over 680 units of local government.

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(I don't think this was published)