

Enrolled
Senate Bill 1084

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON RULES (at the request of Senate President Peter Courtney and Speaker of the House of Representatives Karen Minnis)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to Public Commission on the Oregon Legislature; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas more than 30 years have passed since the last comprehensive review of the legislative branch; and

Whereas the legislative branch is the basic policy-making branch for state government and the most responsive of the three branches to issues of importance to the citizens of the state; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon is responsible for enacting sufficient and proper laws of the state for governing the conduct and activities of the citizens of Oregon; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly is responsible for enacting laws for the management of the governmental affairs of the state; and

Whereas the increasing complexity of our society has meant that a multitude of issues come before the Legislative Assembly for consideration and determination, with an increasingly heavy workload for the Legislative Assembly, legislative committees and legislators; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly recognizes the need for study and evaluation of the body's administration, procedures, facilities, staffing and overall capacity, and the need for study and evaluation of ways of improving the body's administration, procedures, facilities, staffing and overall capacity; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that a major review and study of the legislative branch of government of this state, and of all of the Legislative Assembly's functions and activities, should be undertaken for the purpose of ensuring that the Legislative Assembly can meet the increasing demands of legislative work and perform its functions as an equal and coordinate branch of state government; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Public Commission on the Oregon Legislature consisting of 30 members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the Senate;

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among members of the House of Representatives; and

(c) The President and Speaker shall jointly appoint 26 public members who have broad experience with, interest in and perspective on the legislative branch.

(2) The commission shall conduct a review of and make recommendations on all aspects of the legislative branch, including the timing, frequency and length of legislative sessions, legislative procedures and the adequacy of legislative facilities and staffing.

(3) The commission may send members to study facilities and services provided in other state capitols.

(4) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority of the members of a subcommittee of the commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business of the subcommittee.

(5) Official action by the commission requires the approval of a majority of the members of the commission. Official action by a subcommittee requires the approval of a majority of the members appointed to the subcommittee.

(6) The President and Speaker shall designate two members of the commission to serve as cochairpersons of the commission.

(7) The cochairpersons of the commission shall determine the number and nature of subcommittees and appoint commission members to subcommittees to carry out the work of the commission.

(8) If there is a vacancy on the commission for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective. The cochairpersons of the commission will fill vacancies on subcommittees.

(9) The commission shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochairpersons. Subcommittees of the commission shall meet at times and places specified by the chairpersons of the subcommittees.

(10) The commission may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the commission.

(11) No later than January 5, 2007, the commission shall prepare a report of its study for submission to the Emergency Board and to members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly.

(12) The commission may draft and pre-session file legislation to be considered by the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly.

(13) The Legislative Administration Committee and the Legislative Assembly shall provide staff to support the commission and subcommittees of the commission.

(14) Members of the commission who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to compensation and may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions of the commission shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Legislative Assembly for that purpose.

(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the commission in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the commission consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2005 Act is repealed January 8, 2007.

SECTION 3. This 2005 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2005 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by Senate July 1, 2005

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Secretary of Senate

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President of Senate

Passed by House July 19, 2005

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Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2005

Approved:

.....M,....., 2005

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Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2005

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Secretary of State