

**RCW 43.06A.020 Ombuds—Appointment, term of office.** (1) Subject to confirmation by the senate, the governor shall appoint an ombuds who shall be a person of recognized judgment, independence, objectivity, and integrity, and shall be qualified by training or experience, or both, in family and children's services law and policy. Prior to the appointment, the governor shall consult with, and may receive recommendations from the committee, regarding the selection of the ombuds.

(2) The person appointed ombuds shall hold office for a term of three years and shall continue to hold office until reappointed or until his or her successor is appointed. The governor may remove the ombuds only for neglect of duty, misconduct, or inability to perform duties. Any vacancy shall be filled by similar appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term. [2013 c 23 s 72; 1998 c 288 s 7; 1996 c 131 s 3.]

**Severability—1998 c 288:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1998 c 288 s 8.]

**Effective date—1998 c 288:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 2, 1998]." [1998 c 288 s 9.]

**Effective date—1996 c 131 ss 1-3:** See note following RCW 43.06A.010.