Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Local Government & Housing Committee

HB 1760

Brief Description: Creating a five-member option for civil service commissions for sheriffs' offices.

Sponsors: Representative Ormsby.

Brief Summary of Bill

 Creates a five-member option for civil service commissions for county sheriffs' offices.

Hearing Date: 2/9/09

Staff: Sara del Moral (786-7291) and Thamas Osborn (786-7129)

Background:

A civil service commission (commission) for a county sheriff's office consists of three members appointed by the board of county commissioners. In the case of a commission serving multiple counties, members are delegated by the boards of county commissioners of each county.

Members of the commission serve six-year terms. At the time of appointment, no more than two members may be from the same political party.

A commission has a number of responsibilities. Examples include:

- creating suitable rules and regulations for examinations, appointments, and promotions;
- inspecting departments and offices under the commission's jurisdiction; and
- conducting hearings and investigations.

Two members of a civil service commission constitute a quorum and the votes of two concurring members are sufficient for the decision of the commission.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

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Summary of Bill:

A civil service commission for a sheriff's office may increase the number of commission members from three to five. The two additional commissioners serve six-year terms. At the time the two additional commissioners are appointed, no more than three members may be from the same political party. Three members of a five-member commission constitute a quorum and the votes of three concurring members are sufficient to make a decision.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.