# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

# BILL ANALYSIS

## **Local Government & Housing Committee**

## **SB 5322**

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

**Sponsors**: Senator Fairley.

### **Brief Summary of Bill**

• Allows a county legislative authority to increase the number of members of a civil service commission for a sheriff's office from three to five.

Hearing Date: 3/16/09

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

## 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.

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.

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. Two members of a commission constitute a quorum and the votes of two concurring members are sufficient to make a decision.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

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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A county legislative authority or authorities may enact an ordinance increasing the number of commission members on a civil service commission for a sheriff's office 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. For a five-member commission, three members 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.