

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bil Analysis

Bil No. HB 1413

Staggering terms of the members of the  
Washington Citizens Commission  
on salaries for selected officials  
Brief title

Hearing Date 2/3/99

Reps McMorris, Romer, Washington  
Citizens Commission Salaries  
Sponsor(s)

Staff Steve Aundin  
State Government Committee  
Phone 786-7127

**BACKGROUND :**

State voters approved Amendment 78 to the state constitution in 1986 providing an independent commission to set salaries for members of the Legislature, executive officials, executive branch state government and judges of the supreme court, court of appeals, superior court and district court. After the initial actment of legislation establishing independent salary commission, an amendment altering the composition of that commission must be approved by a favorable two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the Legislature.

Legislation in Washington Citizens Commission Salaries for Elected Officials provides a 16-member commission composed of one registered from each of the nine congressional districts in the state each of whom is selected and one member selected by the speaker of the House of Representatives and five members of the Senate with the requirement that all of the persons selected by the speaker and president have personal management experience. Of the persons selected by the chief clerk and president of the Senate, one member must be selected from each of the following sectors: private institutions, higher education, business, professional, legal, professional and organization. In addition, one member selected by the speaker and president must be a person recommended by the chair of the Washington Personnel Resources Board and another person must be recommended by a majority of the president of the state four-year institutions of higher education. The names of all 16 persons who are so selected are forwarded to the governor who appoints these persons to the Commission.

All 16 members serve four year terms of five with each term ending at the same time.

**SUMMARY :**

The terms of members of the State Salary Commission are staggered so that every two years eight terms

expiring this staggering compliance by terminating the terms of members who were appointed in 1999, effectively, 2002. New commissioners are appointed by the Governor in the existing appointment process and the Governor also selects four of the nine registered voters who are selected randomly and four of the appointments were selected by the chief clerk and president of the senate to serve four-year terms. The other eight appointments serve two-year terms. Thereafter, appointments are for four-year terms.

The names of persons who are selected in this process are forwarded to the Governor no later than the first day of July every two years.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Not requested.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill passed.