
HOUSE BILL 1801

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Graham, Burnett, and Griffey

Read first time 02/03/25. Referred to Committee on Community Safety.

1 AN ACT Relating to including legislative members in the voting
2 membership of the sentencing guidelines commission; and amending RCW
3 9.94A.860.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.94A.860 and 2023 c 241 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The sentencing guidelines commission is hereby created,
8 located within the office of financial management. Except as provided
9 in RCW 9.94A.875, the commission shall serve to advise the governor
10 and the legislature as necessary on issues relating to adult and
11 juvenile sentencing. The commission may meet, as necessary, to
12 accomplish these purposes within funds appropriated.

13 (2) (a) The commission consists of ~~((25))~~ 29 voting members, one
14 of whom the governor shall designate as chair.

15 (b) With the exception of ex officio and legislative voting
16 members, the voting members of the commission shall be appointed by
17 the governor, or his or her designee, subject to confirmation by the
18 senate.

19 (c) The speaker of the house of representatives and the president
20 of the senate shall each appoint two legislative voting members to
21 the commission, one from each of the two largest caucuses in each

1 house. The members so appointed shall serve two-year terms, or until
2 they cease to be members of the house from which they were appointed,
3 whichever occurs first.

4 (3) The voting membership consists of the following:

5 (a) The head of the state agency having general responsibility
6 for adult correction programs, as an ex officio member;

7 (b) The director of financial management or designee, as an ex
8 officio member;

9 (c) The chair of the indeterminate sentence review board, as an
10 ex officio member;

11 (d) The head of the state agency, or the agency head's designee,
12 having responsibility for juvenile corrections programs, as an ex
13 officio member;

14 (e) Two prosecuting attorneys;

15 (f) Two attorneys with particular expertise in defense work;

16 (g) Four persons who are superior court judges;

17 (h) One person who is the chief law enforcement officer of a
18 county or city;

19 (i) Five members of the public who are not prosecutors, defense
20 attorneys, judges, or law enforcement officers, one of whom is a
21 victim of crime, one of whom is a victim of crime or a crime victims'
22 advocate, and one of whom has been formerly incarcerated in the state
23 correctional system;

24 (j) One person who is an elected official of a county government,
25 other than a prosecuting attorney or sheriff;

26 (k) One person who is an elected official of a city government;

27 (l) One person who is an administrator of juvenile court
28 services;

29 (m) The chair of the state supreme court minority and justice
30 commission or designee, as an ex officio member;

31 (n) One person representing the interests of tribes;

32 (o) One behavioral health professional with experience working in
33 the criminal justice system; ~~((and))~~

34 (p) One person with knowledge of and expertise in academic
35 research in the field of criminology or sociology; and

36 (q) Four state legislators, one from each of the two largest
37 caucuses in each house.

38 In making the appointments, the governor shall endeavor to assure
39 that the commission membership includes adequate representation and
40 expertise relating to both the adult criminal justice system and the

1 juvenile justice system. In making the appointments, the governor
2 shall seek the recommendations of Washington prosecutors in respect
3 to the prosecuting attorney members, of the Washington state bar
4 association in respect to the defense attorney members, of the
5 superior court judges' association in respect to the members who are
6 judges, of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs
7 in respect to the member who is a law enforcement officer, of the
8 Washington state association of counties in respect to the member who
9 is a county official, of the association of Washington cities in
10 respect to the member who is a city official, of the office of crime
11 victims advocacy and other organizations of crime victims in respect
12 to the member who is a victim of crime or a crime victims' advocate,
13 of the Washington association of juvenile court administrators in
14 respect to the member who is an administrator of juvenile court
15 services, and of the Washington state institute for public policy and
16 the relevant departments of the Washington State University and
17 University of Washington in respect to the member with knowledge of
18 and expertise in academic research in the field of criminology or
19 sociology.

20 (4) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, all voting
21 members of the commission, except ex officio and legislative voting
22 members, shall serve terms of three years and until their successors
23 are appointed and confirmed.

24 (b) The governor shall stagger the initial terms of the members
25 appointed under subsection (3) (n), (o), and (p) of this section by
26 appointing one of them for a term of one year, one of them for a term
27 of two years, and one of them for a term of three years.

28 ~~(5) ((The speaker of the house of representatives and the~~
29 ~~president of the senate may each appoint two nonvoting members to the~~
30 ~~commission, one from each of the two largest caucuses in each house.~~
31 ~~The members so appointed shall serve two-year terms, or until they~~
32 ~~cease to be members of the house from which they were appointed,~~
33 ~~whichever occurs first.~~

34 ~~(6))~~ The members of the commission may be reimbursed for travel
35 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative
36 members may be reimbursed by their respective houses as provided
37 under RCW 44.04.120. Except for the reimbursement of travel expenses,
38 members shall not be compensated.

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