
Innovation, Technology & Economic Development Committee

HB 1279

Brief Description: Eliminating the joint legislative oversight committee on trade policy.

Sponsors: Representatives Hudgins, Stokesbary, Smith and Morris.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eliminates the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy.

Hearing Date: 1/23/19

Staff: Kyle Raymond (786-7190).

Background:

The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy (JLOCTP).

The Legislature created the JLOCTP in 2003 to monitor trade agreement impacts on Washington state laws, and to provide a mechanism for legislators and citizens to voice their opinions on trade agreements to state and federal officials.

The JLOCTP is an 11-member committee, comprised of four senators, four representatives, and three ex-officio members. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives appoint members from their respective bodies, as well as jointly appoint the ex-officio members. Staff support is provided by Senate Committee Services and the House of Representatives Office of Program Research.

The JLOCTP examines issues related to international trade, international economic integration, and trade agreements that the members deem appropriate. The JLOCTP is required to:

- annually hear public testimony and report to the state Trade Representative's Office and Legislature on the impacts of international trade agreements and negotiations on the state;

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- conduct an annual assessment and report to the Legislature on the impacts of international trade agreements upon Washington law; and
- maintain active communication with federal and state trade offices, the state's congressional delegation, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and any other bodies the committee deems appropriate regarding ongoing developments in international trade agreements and policy.

Summary of Bill:

The act creating the JLOCTP is repealed, eliminating the JLOCTP and the President of the Senate's duty to appoint members of the JLOCTP.

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.