

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1279

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Trade, March 19, 2019

Title: An act relating to eliminating the joint legislative oversight committee on trade policy.

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

Sponsors: Representatives Hudgins, Stokesbary, Smith and Morris.

Brief History: Passed House: 3/04/19, 95-1.

Committee Activity: Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Trade: 3/14/19, 3/19/19 [DP, DNP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Eliminates the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TRADE

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Mullet, Chair; Wilson, L., Ranking Member; Das and Hobbs.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senator Hasegawa, Vice Chair.

Staff: Kellee Gunn (786-7429)

Background: The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy. The Legislature created the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Trade Policy (JLOCTP) in 2003 to monitor trade agreement impacts on Washington laws, and to provide a mechanism for legislators and citizens to voice their opinions on trade agreements to state and federal officials.

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

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ex-officio members. Staff support is provided by Senate Committee Services and the House of Representatives Office of Program Research.

JLOCTP examines issues related to international trade, international economic integration, and trade agreements that the members deem appropriate. 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;
- 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 Lieutenant Governor's duty to appoint JLOCTP members.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on August 1, 2019.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: None.

Persons Testifying: No one.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.