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HOUSE BILL 1719

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson, Reams, R. Fisher, King, Pruitt, Roland, Wolfe, Lemmon and Ogden

Read first time 02/05/93. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the citizens' commission on salaries for elected  
2 officials; amending RCW 43.03.305 and 43.03.310; providing an effective  
3 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.03.305 and 1986 c 155 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 There is created a commission to be known as the Washington  
8 citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials(~~(, to)~~). The  
9 commission shall consist of (~~(fifteen)~~) seventeen members appointed by  
10 the governor as provided in this section.

11 (1) (~~(Eight)~~) Nine of the (~~(fifteen)~~) seventeen commission members  
12 shall be selected by lot by the secretary of state from among those  
13 registered voters eligible to vote at the general election held in  
14 November, 1986, and thereafter from among those registered voters  
15 eligible to vote at the time of the selection. One member shall be  
16 selected from each congressional district. The secretary shall  
17 establish policies and procedures for conducting the selection by lot.  
18 The policies and procedures shall include, but not be limited to, those  
19 for notifying persons selected and for providing a new selection from

1 a congressional district if a person selected from the district  
2 declines appointment to the commission.

3 (2) The remaining (~~seven~~) eight of the (~~fifteen~~) seventeen  
4 commission members, all residents of this state, shall be selected  
5 jointly by the speaker of the house of representatives and the  
6 president of the senate. The persons selected under this subsection  
7 shall have had experience in the field of personnel management. Of  
8 these (~~seven~~) eight members, one shall be selected from each of the  
9 following five sectors in this state: Private institutions of higher  
10 education; business; professional personnel management; legal  
11 profession; and organized labor. Of the (~~two~~) three remaining  
12 members, one shall be a person recommended to the speaker and the  
13 president by the chairperson of the state personnel board, one shall be  
14 a person recommended by a state association of the members of the  
15 legislative authorities of the counties of the state, and one shall be  
16 a person recommended by majority vote of the presidents of the state's  
17 four-year institutions of higher education.

18 (3) The secretary of state shall forward the names of persons  
19 selected under subsection (1) of this section and the speaker of the  
20 house of representatives and president of the senate shall forward the  
21 names of persons selected under subsection (2) of this section to the  
22 governor who shall appoint these persons to the commission. Except as  
23 provided in subsection (6) of this section, the names of persons  
24 selected for appointment to the commission shall be forwarded to the  
25 governor not later than February 15, 1987, and not later than the  
26 fifteenth day of February every four years thereafter.

27 (4) Members shall hold office for terms of four years, and no  
28 person may be appointed to more than two such terms. No member of the  
29 commission may be removed by the governor during his or her term of  
30 office unless for cause of incapacity, incompetence, neglect of duty,  
31 or malfeasance in office or for a disqualifying change of residence.

32 (5) No state official, public employee, or lobbyist, or immediate  
33 family member of the official, employee, or lobbyist, subject to the  
34 registration requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW is eligible for  
35 membership on the commission.

36 As used in this subsection the phrase "immediate family" means the  
37 parents, spouse, siblings, children, or dependent relative of the  
38 official, employee, or lobbyist whether or not living in the household  
39 of the official, employee, or lobbyist.

1 (6) Upon a vacancy in any position on the commission, a successor  
2 shall be selected and appointed to fill the unexpired term. The  
3 selection and appointment shall be concluded within thirty days of the  
4 date the position becomes vacant and shall be conducted in the same  
5 manner as originally provided.

6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.03.310 and 1986 c 155 s 3 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (1) The citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials  
9 shall study the relationship of salaries to the duties of members of  
10 the legislature, all elected officials of the executive branch of state  
11 government, and all judges of the supreme court, court of appeals,  
12 superior courts, and district courts, and shall fix the salary for each  
13 respective position.

14 (2) Except as provided otherwise in this section, the commission  
15 shall be solely responsible for its own organization, operation, and  
16 action and shall enjoy the fullest cooperation of all state officials,  
17 departments, and agencies.

18 (3) Members of the commission shall receive no compensation for  
19 their services, but shall be eligible to receive a subsistence  
20 allowance and travel expenses pursuant to RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

21 (4) The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from  
22 among their number. A majority of the members of the commission shall  
23 be present at a meeting of the commission to set the salary of any  
24 official. The commission shall set the salary of an official or a  
25 schedule of salaries of officials by an affirmative vote of not less  
26 than ~~((eight members of the commission))~~ a majority of the members  
27 present at such a meeting.

28 (5) The commission shall file its initial schedule of salaries for  
29 the elected officials with the secretary of state no later than the  
30 first Monday in June, 1987, and shall file a schedule biennially  
31 thereafter. Each such schedule shall be filed in legislative bill  
32 form, shall be assigned a chapter number and published with the session  
33 laws of the legislature, and shall be codified by the statute law  
34 committee. The signature of the chairperson of the commission shall be  
35 affixed to each schedule submitted to the secretary of state. The  
36 chairperson shall certify that the schedule has been adopted in  
37 accordance with the provisions of state law and with the rules, if any,  
38 of the commission. Such schedules shall become effective ninety days

1 after the filing thereof, except as provided in Article XXVIII, section  
2 1 of the state Constitution. State laws regarding referendum petitions  
3 shall apply to such schedules to the extent consistent with Article  
4 XXVIII, section 1 of the state Constitution.

5 (6) Prior to the filing of any salary schedule, the commission  
6 shall hold no fewer than four public hearings thereon within the four  
7 months immediately preceding the filing.

8 (7) All meetings, actions, hearings, and business of the commission  
9 shall be subject in full to the open public meetings act, chapter 42.30  
10 RCW.

11 (8) Salaries of the officials referred to in subsection (1) of this  
12 section that are in effect on January 12, 1987, shall continue until  
13 modified by the commission under this section.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act shall take effect  
15 February 15, 1995. The secretary of state, speaker of the house of  
16 representatives, president of the senate, and governor may take such  
17 steps as are necessary to ensure that section 1 of this act is  
18 implemented on its effective date.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 2 of this act is necessary for the  
20 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or  
21 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,  
22 and shall take effect immediately.

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