
SENATE BILL 5956

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, Sellar, Sutherland, Bauer, Spanel, M. Rasmussen, McAuliffe and von Reichbauer; by request of Governor Lowry and Attorney General

Read first time 03/05/93. Under suspension of rules, read second and third times and passed.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a commission on ethics in
2 government and campaign practices; creating a new section; making an
3 appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A commission on ethics in government and
6 campaign practices is hereby established. The commission shall study,
7 hold public meetings, take public testimony, and make recommendations
8 on the need and appropriate scope of legislation necessary to: (a)
9 Promote public trust and confidence in government; (b) promote fair
10 campaign practices; and (c) ensure the effective administration of
11 public disclosure, conflict of interest, and ethics laws.

12 The commission's review shall include, but not be limited to, the
13 mission, role, and funding of the public disclosure commission and the
14 administration and enforcement of disclosure, ethics, and conflict of
15 interest statutes, codes, and rules.

16 (2) The commission shall include ten citizen members from all areas
17 of the state appointed by the governor. In addition, the commission
18 shall include the governor or his or her designee; the attorney general
19 or his or her designee; two members of the house of representatives

1 from different political parties appointed by the speaker of the house
2 of representatives; two members of the senate from different political
3 parties appointed by the president of the senate; and the chief justice
4 of the supreme court or his or her designee. The members of the
5 commission shall be appointed within thirty days after the effective
6 date of this act.

7 The governor and the attorney general shall within sixty days after
8 the effective date of this act convene the commission and appoint a
9 chair or chairs from among the citizen members.

10 (3) The commission is authorized to retain the services of experts,
11 consultants, and support staff as necessary to carry out its duties.
12 The governor, attorney general, and the legislature shall make
13 available to the commission personnel, facilities, and other
14 administrative assistance.

15 (4) The commission shall provide a report to the governor, the
16 attorney general, the chief justice of the supreme court, the house of
17 representatives, and the senate no later than December 1, 1993.

18 (5) Nonlegislative members of the commission shall be reimbursed
19 for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
20 Legislative members of the commission shall be reimbursed for travel
21 expenses as provided in RCW 44.04.120.

22 (6) The commission shall expire on March 31, 1994.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or
24 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
25 ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the office of financial
26 management for the commission on ethics in government and campaign
27 practices for the purposes of this act. Any funds from this
28 appropriation remaining unexpended on June 30, 1993, are hereby
29 reappropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1995, to the office of
30 financial management for the commission on ethics in government and
31 campaign practices for the purposes stated in this section.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
33 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
34 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
35 effect immediately.

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