
SENATE BILL 5119

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Parlette, Roach, Mulliken, Honeyford, Johnson, Carrell, Stevens, Oke, Deccio, Schoesler and Berkey

Read first time 01/13/2005. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring a review of the local government
2 whistleblower program; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The joint legislative audit and review
5 committee shall review the local government whistleblower program. The
6 committee, in its review, shall consider, but not be limited to, the
7 following factors: The effectiveness of local reporting policies and
8 investigation procedures including the officers responsible for
9 investigations; the role county prosecutors play in employee
10 whistleblower investigations; internal conflicts of interest within the
11 local government agency that may prevent robust investigation of
12 reports of improper governmental action; employee awareness of the
13 whistleblower program; employee confidence in program performance; the
14 effectiveness of the retaliatory action complaint process; and the
15 feasibility of providing an independent party to receive the report of
16 improper governmental action and/or conduct the investigation. The
17 committee shall make recommendations regarding improvements to better
18 facilitate the reporting and investigation of improper governmental

1 action in local governments. The committee shall provide a final
2 report on this review by December 1, 2006.

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