



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Date: February 23, 2021
By: Leslie Porter, Analyst
Re: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Commission for the Blind subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Appointees

Nadeera Broome of Milwaukee; New Appointment
Laurel Hudson of Portland; Reappointment

Term

Broome: March 15, 2021 – February 28, 2025
Hudson: September 26, 2020 – September 25, 2024

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 346.130 \(2019\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Statutory Requirements³

The commission consists of seven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.⁴ Four member must be qualified persons within the legal definition of persons who are blind (BABCOCK, **BROOME**, CARLILE-SMITH, GOODMAN). Three members must be appointed from among the areas of:

- employers (**HUDSON**);
- labor;
- optometry (CLOSSON);
- ophthalmology; and
- education of persons who are blind (McCALLUM).

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2019\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2019\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2019\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2019\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 346.130 \(2019\)](#).

No more than one appointee may represent the same area during the same term and appointments should be made from the five areas on a rotating basis. Members serve four-year terms and must be removed from office if absent from three consecutive meetings or more than one-third of the scheduled meetings in one year.

Duties and Authority

The commission was created to serve the needs of Oregon's citizens who experience vision loss and need specialized training and support to lead full and productive lives.

The commission must:⁵

- establish and administer programs for the welfare of persons with visual impairments, including but not limited to cooperation by contract or otherwise with public and private agencies in providing services, programs, and facilities for persons with visual impairments;
- be responsible for the fiscal oversight of the commission, including development of the commission's budget, review of financial statements, and directing resources to implement program goals;
- employ an administrator and such other persons as may be necessary and fix their compensation;
- compile and maintain a registration of persons in Oregon who are blind, which must describe the extent of blindness, cause of blindness, and such other facts in regard to each person so registered as the commission may deem advisable;
- maintain the confidentiality of information on the registry of persons who are blind;
- maintain a program for the conservation and restoration of sight and the prevention of blindness;
- maintain a program of vocational rehabilitation services to aid persons with visual impairments in finding employment;
- cooperate with the Department of Human Services in the administration of programs for persons who are blind;
- oversee the administration of vending facilities in public buildings or on public property, including the adoption of rules and recruitment, selection, training, and licensing of persons who are blind as managers of vending facilities;
- ensure the active participation of the commission's business enterprise consumer committee in the commission's major administrative, policy and program development decisions that impact the commission's business enterprise program; and
- determine by rule the percentage of net proceeds earned by a vending facility which must be collected by the commission and dedicated to the administration of the vending facilities program.

The commission may:⁶

⁵ [ORS 346.120 to 346.570 \(2019\)](#).

⁶ *Id.*

- establish a program of social and educational services for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of persons with visual impairments by providing instruction that will assist them in making the best possible adjustment to conditions resulting from loss or impairment of sight;
- enter into agreements with, join with or accept grants from, the federal government for cooperative research, demonstration projects and personnel training programs;
- receive moneys by gift or bequest and expend the moneys for any of the objects and purposes of the commission;
- require the fingerprints of persons working or providing services on behalf of the commission;
- aid a licensed vending facility manager with materials, equipment or machinery, or by allowing the manager to subcontract with a third party to obtain materials, equipment or machinery, in order to enable the operation of a vending facility; and
- negotiate and consummate arrangements for the purchase of such vending facility equipment.

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Blind, Commission for the

Agency: None
Authorization: ORS 346.130, HB 3187
Members: Min: 7 Max: 7
Term Length: 4 years Limit: 3
Senate confirmation required? Yes

Policy Area: Labor/Trades

Board Contact:

Dacia Johnson
535 SE 12th Ave
Portland, OR 97214
971-673-1588
Fax: 503-731-3230
dacia.johnson@state.or.us

Current Appointments:

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Michael A Babcock

Position Number: 5

Term(s): 11-25-2019 - 11-24-2023

Nadeera A Broome

Blind

Position Number: 6

Term(s): 03-01-2020 - 02-28-2025

Vivian M Carlile-Smith

Blind

Position Number: 7

Term(s): 06-01-2020 - 05-31-2024
06-01-2016 - 05-31-2020

Christi L Closson

Optometrist

Position Number: 2

Term(s): 10-01-2019 - 09-30-2023
10-01-2015 - 09-30-2019

Lillian N Goodman

Blind

Position Number: 1

Term(s): 12-17-2018 - 11-16-2021

Laurel K Hudson

Employer

Position Number: 3

Term(s): 09-26-2020 - 09-24-2024
09-26-2016 - 09-25-2020

Laurel K Hudson

Employer

Position Number: 3

Term(s): 09-26-2020 - 09-24-2024
09-26-2016 - 09-25-2020

Scott I McCallum

Educator

Position Number: 4

Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024
07-01-2016 - 06-30-2020
09-19-2014 - 06-30-2016

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Blind, Commission for the

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Policy Area: Labor/Trades

Sharon L Zenger

Position Number: 6

Term(s): 12-19-2016 - 12-18-2020