

Enrolled
Senate Bill 661

Sponsored by Senators KNOPP, TAYLOR; Senators MANNING JR, THATCHER (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to lobbyists; creating new provisions; amending ORS 171.635 and 171.640; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 171.725 to 171.785.

SECTION 2. (1) A lobbyist may not serve as the chairperson of a legislative work group or legislative task force that is staffed by nonpartisan staff of the legislative department, as defined in ORS 174.114.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a chairperson who is a public official who lobbies.

SECTION 3. ORS 171.635 is amended to read:

171.635. Provision may be made, in the joint resolution creating an interim committee, for the appointment to the committee of individuals other than members of the Legislative Assembly. **A lobbyist, as defined in ORS 171.725, may not serve as the chairperson of an interim committee, except that a public official who lobbies may serve as the chairperson of an interim committee.**

SECTION 4. ORS 171.640 is amended to read:

171.640. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Appointing authority" means the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, subject to the rules of the respective bodies over which each presides.

(b) "Interim committee" includes any committee of three or more members of the Legislative Assembly appointed pursuant to the provisions of this section to pursue the functions described in ORS 171.610, whether the appointing authority designates the committee an interim committee, task force, special committee or any other term customarily used in describing legislative committees functioning during the interim period.

(2) Upon or during the interim following adjournment of a regular session of the Legislative Assembly, the appointing authorities may appoint interim committees of members of the house over which the particular authority presides, or members of both houses, and may assign the general topic of study or concern to the committee.

(3)(a) The appointing authorities may appoint members of the public to an interim committee. The appointing authorities must consult with each other before appointing members of the public to a joint interim committee. The appointing authority may appoint the chairperson of an interim committee, **except that the appointing authority may not appoint a lobbyist, as defined in ORS 171.725, as the chairperson of an interim committee or joint interim committee.**

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, an appointing authority may appoint a public official who lobbies as the chairperson of an interim committee or joint interim committee.

(c) An appointing authority must notify the Legislative Administration Committee in writing of the appointment and membership of all interim committees created.

(4) An interim committee created under authority of this section is subject to the provisions of ORS 171.605 to 171.635 and has the authority contained in ORS 171.505 and 171.510. An interim committee created under authority of this section may file its written report at any time within 30 days after its final meeting, or at such later time as the appointing authority or, in the case of a joint committee, as the appointing authorities may designate.

(5) An appointing authority may employ the persons that the appointing authority considers necessary to perform the function of the interim committees created under authority of this section. The appointing authority shall fix the duties and amounts of compensation of employees. Interim committees shall use the services of permanent legislative staff to the greatest extent practical.

(6) Members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to an allowance as authorized by law for each day that they are engaged in interim committee business that is approved by the appointing authority. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions of an interim committee shall be paid out of funds appropriated for the expenses of the Legislative Assembly.

SECTION 5. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

Passed by Senate April 6, 2023

.....
Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

.....
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Passed by House May 16, 2023

.....
Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2023

Approved:

.....M,....., 2023

.....
Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2023

.....
Secretary of State