

**A-Engrossed**  
**Senate Bill 661**

Ordered by the Senate March 27  
Including Senate Amendments dated March 27

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

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Prohibits lobbyist from serving as chairperson of interim [*committee, legislative work group or legislative task force.*] **committees or certain legislative work groups or legislative task forces. Provides exceptions.**

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to lobbyists; creating new provisions; amending ORS 171.635 and 171.640; and prescribing  
3 an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 171.725 to**  
6 **171.785.**

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

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

12 **SECTION 3. ORS 171.635 is amended to read:**

13 171.635. Provision may be made, in the joint resolution creating an interim committee, for the  
14 appointment to the committee of individuals other than members of the Legislative Assembly. **A**  
15 **lobbyist, as defined in ORS 171.725, may not serve as the chairperson of an interim commit-**  
16 **tee, except that a public official who lobbies may serve as the chairperson of an interim**  
17 **committee.**

18 **SECTION 4. ORS 171.640 is amended to read:**

19 171.640. (1) As used in this section:

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

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

27 (2) Upon or during the interim following adjournment of a regular session of the Legislative

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 Assembly, the appointing authorities may appoint interim committees of members of the house over  
2 which the particular authority presides, or members of both houses, and may assign the general  
3 topic of study or concern to the committee.

4 (3)(a) The appointing authorities may appoint members of the public to an interim committee.  
5 The appointing authorities must consult with each other before appointing members of the public  
6 to a joint interim committee. The appointing authority may appoint the chairperson of an interim  
7 committee, **except that the appointing authority may not appoint a lobbyist, as defined in ORS**  
8 **171.725, as the chairperson of an interim committee or joint interim committee.**

9 **(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, an appointing authority may ap-**  
10 **point a public official who lobbies as the chairperson of an interim committee or joint interim**  
11 **committee.**

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

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

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

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

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

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