

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 1120

---

---

As of March 10, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to uniform laws.

**Brief Description:** Concerning uniform laws.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Pedersen, Rodne, Goodman and Morrell; by request of Uniform Legislation Commission.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 2/23/09, 95-0.

**Committee Activity:** Judiciary:

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**Staff:** Juliana Roe (786-7438)

**Background:** The Uniform Legislation Commission (Commission) was established to promote uniformity of legislation with other states. The Governor appoints the Board of Commissioners, which consists of three members who are typically judges, law professors, or other members of the bar. The Code Reviser serves as a member of the Board of Commissioners.

The commissioners are not compensated for their service but are reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, expenses are allowed for one annual meeting of the board in Washington, and for the members to attend a conference of commissioners outside Washington no more than once per year.

**Summary of Bill:** The Commission is renamed the Washington State Uniform Law Commission and its authorizing statute is updated and revised.

The Governor must appoint three qualified persons to serve on the Washington State Uniform Law Commission. A "qualified" person is defined as a resident of Washington State, a member of the State Bar Association of this state or another, who is or has been a judge, law professor, legislator, or practicing attorney. The Governor may also appoint any person who has served at least 20 years on the Commission and who is a life member in the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws or its successors.

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The statutory charge of the Commission is modified. The Commission must identify areas of the law where uniformity of state laws is desirable and practicable, and either Congress lacks jurisdiction to act or it is preferable that the several states enact the laws.

The Commission is required to propose to the Governor and the Legislature adoption of the uniform acts developed with other commissioners at the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.