

SENATE BILL REPORT

EHB 2073

As of February 17, 2022

Title: An act relating to establishing the state capitol committee as an advisory entity of state government.

Brief Description: Establishing the state capitol committee as an advisory entity of state government.

Sponsors: Representatives Steele and Tharinger.

Brief History: Passed House: 2/15/22, 98-0.

Committee Activity: State Government & Elections: 2/18/22.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Revises the State Capitol Committee (SCC) to be an interbranch advisory committee of state government and updates membership of the SCC.
- Updates the responsibilities for the Department of Enterprise Services relating to the state capitol buildings and grounds.
- Revises the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee to be a technical advisory work group and updates the duties and membership of the work group.
- Repeals obsolete provisions relating to acquisition of property or construction of facilities that have already occurred.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS

Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (786-7491)

Background: The State Capitol Committee (SCC) was established by the Legislature in

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1921. The members of the SCC are the Governor, or the Governor's designee, the Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Public Lands, ex officio. The SCC oversees the governance of the capitol campus and all state facilities in Thurston County, with day-to-day management provided by the Department of Enterprise Services (DES).

The SCC is responsible for:

- approving construction of all state buildings in Thurston County;
- approving acquisition of real estate for state government in Thurston County; and
- providing policy direction to the DES in the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the public and historic facilities of the state capitol.

The Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee (CCDAC) was established permanently by the Legislature in 1990 as an advisory group to the SCC and the DES to review programs, planning, design and landscaping of state capitol facilities and grounds as they are developed, including the process of solicitation and selection of design services. The CCDAC consists of four legislators, the Secretary of State, two architects, a landscape architect, and an urban planner.

The DES provides staff support to the SCC and the CCDAC.

Summary of Bill: The SCC is revised from an administrative committee to an interbranch advisory committee of state government. The Lieutenant Governor and the Commissioner of Public Lands are removed from the SCC and the following members are added:

- two members from the Senate, one from each caucus, who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate; and
- two members of the House of Representatives, one from each caucus, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

The SCC will no longer be responsible for approving acquisition of real estate for state government purposes or construction of state buildings in Thurston County. The SCC will make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on the architectural, historical, aesthetic, functional, and environmental aspects of the state capitol public and historic facilities, and advise DES on:

- amendments and modifications to the comprehensive plan for the state capitol public and historic facilities;
- the construction, remodeling, and furnishing of capitol office buildings, parking facilities, the Governor's mansion, and other buildings; and
- the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the state capitol buildings.

The DES is responsible for:

- serving as the secretary and record keeper for the SCC, instead of the Commissioner of Public Lands;

- the construction, remodeling, and furnishing of capitol office buildings, parking facilities—including the operation of the electric vehicle supply equipment in those facilities, the Governor's mansion, and other buildings, subject to legislative appropriation;
- the development of a comprehensive plan for the design of all the state capitol buildings and grounds, not only the east campus; and
- renting, leasing, and using all the state capitol properties, not only the east campus, consistent with the use by the Legislature, state agencies, state officials, and the Supreme Court.

The CCDAC is renamed to be the Capitol Campus Design Technical Advisory Work Group (work group) and the time frame that work group meets is changed from at least once every 90 days to as often as necessary. The work group is no longer responsible for reviewing the process of solicitation and selection of design services on campus. The membership of the work group is adjusted to:

- remove the four legislators and the Secretary of State; and
- add a representative from DES, the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and the Washington State Arts Commission.

Multiple statutes related to acquisition of property or construction of facilities that have already occurred are repealed.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: Yes.

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