

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Beyer
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Johnson

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 19 – 0 – 2

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Hanna, Jenson, Morgan, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields
– Nays:
– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Bates, Carter, Devlin, Gordly, Johnson, Morse, Nelson, Schrader, Verger, Whitsett
– Nays:
– Exc: Westlund, Winters

Prepared By: Deborah Manthe, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 6/1/07

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes a board consisting of the chairpersons of the commissions served by the Advocacy Commission Office (ACO) and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to establish the qualifications for and appoint the ACO Administrator; allows ACO to contract with BOLI for administrative assistance; and rescinds the ACO Administrator’s authority to adopt rules.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Administrative assistance includes accounting, budgeting, personnel and payroll services
- BOLI’s initial estimate to provide administrative assistance is slightly higher than the DAS estimate to provide these services and includes the potential need for a half-time position – the actual costs will be unknown until a service level agreement is negotiated with ACO
- BOLI can return to the Emergency Board for Other Funds expenditure limitation and position authority, if needed, once the workload is known
- DAS will not have a reduction in position authority or expenditure limitation
- The increased cost to ACO associated with BOLI’s initial cost estimate can be accommodated within ACO’s 2007-09 essential budget level.
- The history of the advocacy commissions
- Why the Advocacy Commissions Office Administrator’s authority to adopt rules was rescinded

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Advocacy Commissions Office was established in 2005 (SB 359) to provide administrative support to the Commission on Asian Affairs, the Commission on Black Affairs, the Commission on Hispanic Affairs, and the Commission for Women. The commissions are charged in statute with working to implement and establish economic, social, legal, and political equality for their respective communities. Currently the ACO contracts with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for administrative assistance and the DAS Director is responsible for establishing the qualifications for and appointing the ACO Administrator in consultation with the commissions served by ACO.