

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	6 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Atkinson, Avakian, Metsger, Morse, President Courtney, Monroe
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Winters
Prepared By:	Marjorie Taylor, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/30, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Legislative Administration Committee, Legislative Assembly, Legislative Counsel Committee, Legislative Fiscal Officer, Legislative Revenue Officer and Commission on Indian Services for biennial expenses. Limits biennial expenditures from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by certain legislative branch agencies. Authorizes specified nonlimited expenditures. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of each agency in the legislative process
- Staffing needs and salary competitiveness of legislative branch agencies
- Space needs for legislative agencies
- Training and professional development expenditures
- “Feast or famine” (interim vs. session) nature of many legislative budgets

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Reform was assigned to review Senate Bill 5522 prior to consideration by the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The committee held three separate hearings on SB 5522, each with a different purpose. First, a general overview about the functions of Legislative Branch agencies. Second, to hear responses from Legislative Counsel, Fiscal, Revenue and Administration to a specific list of questions. Finally, to hear from Legislative Assembly staff in response to a separate set of questions.

Committee members kept one key issue in mind during discussions - the experiment with, and possible transition to, annual sessions. A permanent switch from biennial sessions to annual sessions will affect workload, staffing and space needs differently for each legislative agency.

The committee approved and sent a letter to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee outlining findings and recommendations based on testimony from affected agencies.

3/29/2007 4:19:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.