



Open Government Impact Statement

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly
2019 Regular Session

Measure: SB 520

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official

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Date: 1/14/2019

SUMMARY

Establishes Legislative Committee on Accountability as joint committee of Legislative Assembly composed of equal number of majority and minority members. Directs committee to appoint Director of Legislative Accountability Office and majority and minority counsels. Authorizes director to employ all other staff of Legislative Accountability Office.

Charges office with conducting performance and management audits of state agencies, state programs and state-funded programs, with investigating allegations of illegal or improper activities by state agencies, state programs and state-funded programs, with investigating and reporting on effectiveness of state government programs and policies in meeting objectives and with performing policy analysis for Legislative Assembly. Directs office to report findings and recommendations to committee.

Statutory powers and duties of office become operative January 1, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure exempts from public disclosure working papers of the Legislative Accountability Office and communications between a counsel of the Legislative Accountability Office and a member, a committee or staff of the Legislative Assembly.

If the public records were instead subject to mandatory disclosure under public records law, the public could receive additional information regarding audits, investigations and other projects of the Legislative Accountability Office, but it would make it more difficult for the Legislative Accountability Office to conduct those activities.