

By Senator Rossin

35-553A-98

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Commission on Government  
 3           Accountability to the People; amending s.  
 4           286.30, F.S.; expanding the duties of the  
 5           commission; providing that the executive  
 6           director is the chief administrative officer of  
 7           the commission; authorizing the executive  
 8           director to appoint staff members and employees  
 9           of the commission; authorizing the commission  
 10          to contract for goods and services and to  
 11          accept government and private resources to pay  
 12          costs and to implement its program; providing  
 13          an effective date.

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 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 17           Section 1. Section 286.30, Florida Statutes, is  
 18 amended to read:

19           286.30 Commission on Government Accountability to the  
 20 People.--

21           (1) There is created the Commission on Government  
 22 Accountability to the People.

23           (2) The commission shall consist of 15 members  
 24 appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the  
 25 Senate, with 9 members from the private sector and 6 members  
 26 from the public sector. The members shall serve 4-year terms.  
 27 ~~Of the initial appointees, terms shall be staggered as~~  
 28 ~~follows: three members shall hold 1-year terms; four members~~  
 29 ~~shall hold 2-year terms; four members shall hold 3-year terms;~~  
 30 ~~and four members shall hold 4-year terms.~~The Governor shall  
 31 fill all vacancies. Upon the request of the chair of the

1 commission or upon his or her own initiative, the Governor may  
2 replace members who are absent from two commission meetings  
3 within any calendar year.

4 (3) The Governor shall appoint the initial chair.  
5 Subsequent chairs shall be elected by a majority vote of the  
6 commission, shall serve 1-year terms, and shall be eligible  
7 for reelection. The commission shall elect the vice chair from  
8 its membership.

9 (4) The commission shall hold a minimum of four  
10 regular meetings during the calendar year. Additional meetings  
11 may be called by the chair, or upon written request of a  
12 majority of the members of the commission. All meetings of the  
13 commission are public in accordance with the provisions of s.  
14 286.011.

15 (5) The commission may establish such committees as it  
16 deems necessary to execute its powers and duties.

17 (6) Members of the commission shall not receive  
18 compensation for their service; however, they shall be  
19 entitled to per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s.  
20 112.061. Public sector members shall perform their commission  
21 duties in addition to fulfilling their regular public duties.

22 (7) The commission shall be assigned to the Department  
23 of Management Services for administrative and fiscal  
24 accountability purposes, and the Department of Management  
25 Services shall provide administrative support and services to  
26 the commission; otherwise, the commission shall function  
27 independently of the control and direction of the Department  
28 of Management Services.

29 (8) The commission shall, by majority vote, employ and  
30 set the compensation of an executive director, who shall serve  
31 at the pleasure of the commission. The executive director

1 shall report directly to the commission. The executive  
2 director is the chief administrative officer of the commission  
3 and is responsible for appointing all employees and staff  
4 members of the commission, who serve under the executive  
5 director's direction and control.

6 (9) The commission may adopt and enforce reasonable  
7 procedures necessary to facilitate the studies and reviews it  
8 is authorized to perform.

9 (10) The commission shall track the impact of state  
10 government ~~agency actions~~ upon the well-being of Florida  
11 citizens by:

12 (a) Serving as a citizen board to review state  
13 government ~~agency~~ performance, using agency planning and  
14 budgeting reports ~~strategic plans~~, reports from the Auditor  
15 ~~General~~, the Executive Office of the Governor, the Legislature  
16 ~~and state agency internal auditors and inspectors general~~, and  
17 other sources as needed.

18 (b) Publishing the Florida Benchmarks Report, a  
19 biennial report on conditions in the state which identifies  
20 outcomes that affect the lives of Floridians and is a guide  
21 for state government to use in strategic planning.  ~~Holding~~  
22 ~~public hearings to allow state agencies which are operating~~  
23 ~~under a performance-based program budget pursuant to s.~~  
24 ~~216.0172 the opportunity to explain factors which contributed~~  
25 ~~to their success or failure in meeting performance measures.~~

26 (c) Assessing if ~~Receiving testimony from the public~~  
27 ~~as to~~ state government is measuring the impacts or public  
28 benefits of its programs ~~agency performance.~~

29 (d) Reporting ~~Assessing~~ the progress of state  
30 government ~~agencies~~ in achieving results ~~meeting their~~  
31 ~~missions, goals, and objectives.~~

1           (e) Making recommendations which could enhance the  
2 productivity of agencies, encourage continued agency  
3 improvement, ensure achievement of adopted performance  
4 standards, and assist state government in improving the  
5 efficiency and effectiveness of the services and products it  
6 provides.

7           (f) Preparing and submitting, by July 1 of each year,  
8 a report to the Governor and Cabinet, the President of the  
9 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
10 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
11 Accountability a report summarizing the activities and  
12 findings of all assessments made by the commission.

13           (11) The commission may contract for necessary goods  
14 and services and apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts,  
15 and services from local, state, or federal governments, or  
16 from any of their agencies, or any other public or private  
17 source. The commission may use funds derived from these  
18 sources to defray clerical and administrative costs and  
19 implement programs necessary to carry out its duties under  
20 this section.

21  
22 State agencies shall cooperate with the commission and shall  
23 provide data and information available to enable the  
24 commission to perform its functions. The Executive Office of  
25 the Governor and the Auditor General may provide assistance,  
26 within available resources, to the commission as necessary.

27           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Expands the duties of the Commission on Government Accountability to the People. Provides that the executive director is the chief administrative officer of the commission. Authorizes the executive director to appoint staff members and employees of the commission. Authorizes the commission to contract for goods and services and to accept government and private resources to pay costs and to implement its program.