



554202

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2019	.	
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The Committee on Innovation, Industry, and Technology (Powell) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 350.061, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

350.061 Public Counsel; appointment; oath; restrictions on
Public Counsel and his or her employees.—

(1) The committee designated by joint rule of the
Legislature or by agreement between the President of the Senate



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11 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives as the Committee
12 on Public Counsel Oversight shall appoint a Public Counsel to
13 represent the general public of Florida before the Florida
14 Public Service Commission. The Public Counsel must ~~shall~~ be an
15 attorney admitted to practice before the Florida Supreme Court,
16 ~~and shall be appointed for a term of 4 years serve at the~~
17 ~~pleasure of the Committee on Public Counsel Oversight,~~ and may
18 be reappointed thereafter, provided that a person appointed as
19 the Public Counsel may not serve more than 12 consecutive years
20 in the position. The Public Counsel may be removed from office
21 by a majority vote of the committee appointees of each house. A
22 person may continue as Public Counsel beyond the 4-year limit
23 until his or her successor is appointed and takes office, unless
24 the person is removed as Public Counsel by a vote of the
25 committee. The Committee on Public Counsel Oversight shall
26 receive applications, conduct interviews, and appoint a Public
27 Counsel to a 4-year term beginning on January 15, 2021, and
28 every 4 years thereafter, ~~subject to biennial reconfirmation by~~
29 ~~the committee.~~ The Public Counsel shall perform his or her
30 duties independently. Vacancies in the office shall be filled
31 for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as
32 the original appointment.

33
34 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

35 And the title is amended as follows:

36 Delete everything before the enacting clause
37 and insert:

38 A bill to be entitled

39 An act relating to Office of Public Counsel; amending



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40 s. 350.061, F.S.; providing term limits for the Public
41 Counsel; requiring the Committee on Public Counsel
42 Oversight to receive applications, conduct interviews,
43 and appoint a Public Counsel by a specified date every
44 4 years; providing for the filling of vacancies;
45 providing an effective date.