



881186

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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Floor: 1/AD/2R	.	Floor: C
03/09/2020 05:08 PM	.	03/12/2020 04:38 PM
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Senator Simpson moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Before line 35

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 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 shall be an  
15 attorney admitted to practice before the Florida Supreme Court,  
16 ~~and shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, and may be~~  
17 reappointed thereafter, provided that a person appointed as the  
18 Public Counsel may not serve more than 12 consecutive years in  
19 the position. However, the time served by the Public Counsel  
20 before July 1, 2020, may not be considered in applying the  
21 limitation on consecutive years of service. The Public Counsel  
22 shall be appointed by a majority vote of the committee  
23 appointees of each house and may be removed from office by a  
24 majority vote of the committee appointees of each house. A  
25 person may continue as Public Counsel beyond the 4-year term  
26 until his or her successor is appointed and takes office, unless  
27 the person is removed by a vote of the committee. The Committee  
28 on Public Counsel Oversight shall receive applications, conduct  
29 interviews, and appoint a Public Counsel to a 4-year term  
30 beginning on March 1, 2021, and every 4 years thereafter ~~serve~~  
31 ~~at the pleasure of the Committee on Public Counsel Oversight,~~  
32 ~~subject to biennial reconfirmation by the committee.~~ The Public  
33 Counsel shall perform his or her duties independently. Vacancies  
34 in the office shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired  
35 term in the same manner as the original appointment.

36  
37 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

38 And the title is amended as follows:

39 Delete lines 2 - 3

40 and insert:



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41 An act relating to infrastructure regulation; amending  
42 s. 350.061, F.S.; providing term limits for the Public  
43 Counsel; providing an exception for time served before  
44 a specified date; providing for the appointment and  
45 removal of the Public Counsel; requiring the Committee  
46 on Public Counsel Oversight to receive applications,  
47 conduct interviews, and appoint a Public Counsel by a  
48 specified date every 4 years; providing for the  
49 filling of vacancies; amending s. 556.102, F.S.;