



699628

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Floor: NC/2R

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03/09/2020 05:06 PM

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Senator Simpson moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Before line 38

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.;