By Senator Berman

26-00579A-24 20241248

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Legislative Compensation Advisory Council; creating s. 11.133, F.S.; creating the Legislative Compensation Advisory Council; requiring the Office of Legislative Services to provide administrative support; providing the purpose of the council; providing for the membership of the council; requiring that members be appointed by a specified date; prohibiting certain council members from being a current member of the Legislature, a current employee of the Legislature, or a registered lobbyist; providing for staggered terms; providing for the filling of vacancies; requiring the council to elect a chair; providing that members are eligible for reappointment; requiring the council to hold its first meeting by a specified date and to hold periodic meetings thereafter; authorizing members to attend meetings through communications media technology; providing the duties of the council; requiring the council to submit a specified report to the Legislature by a specified date and biennially thereafter; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 11.133, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

11.133 Legislative Compensation Advisory Council.-

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(1) There is created the Legislative Compensation Advisory

26-00579A-24 20241248

Council. The Office of Legislative Services shall provide

administrative support to the council. The purpose of the

council is to study and make recommendations to the Legislature

concerning the compensation of legislators.

- (2) The council shall be composed of the following members, who shall be appointed no later than July 1, 2024:
- (a) One member who is a former member of the Legislature, appointed by the President of the Senate.
- (b) One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- $\underline{\mbox{(c) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the}} \\$ Senate.
- (d) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.
- (e) One member who is a former member of the Legislature, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (f) One member appointed by the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives.
- (g) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- (h) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.
 - (i) One member appointed by the Governor.
- (3) (a) A member appointed pursuant to paragraph (2) (b), paragraph (2) (c), paragraph (2) (d), paragraph (2) (f), paragraph (2) (g), paragraph (2) (h), or paragraph (2) (i) may not be a current member of the Legislature, a current employee of the Legislature, or a registered lobbyist.
 - (b) Each member shall be appointed to a term of 4 years.

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26-00579A-24 20241248

However, for the purpose of achieving staggered terms, the members initially appointed under paragraphs (2)(a), (b), (e), and (f) shall each serve a 2-year term. A vacancy must be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the initial appointment.

- (c) The council shall elect a chair from among its members.
- (d) Members of the council are eligible for reappointment.
- (4) The council shall hold its first meeting no later than September 1, 2024, and shall meet monthly thereafter, or upon the call of the chair. After January 1, 2025, the council shall meet quarterly. Members may attend meetings by means of communications media technology as defined in s. 120.54(5)(b)2.
 - (5) The council shall do all of the following:
- (a) Conduct a comprehensive study of the compensation, salary, and retirement benefits of the members of the Legislature.
- (b) Make recommendations for the rates of compensation and retirement benefits for the members of the Legislature.
- (6) By January 1, 2025, and every other January 1 thereafter, the council shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

 The report must contain the information required by subsection (5) and any other information the council deems appropriate.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.