
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5490

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Pedersen, Padden, Dhingra, and Mullet)

READ FIRST TIME 01/14/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the interbranch advisory committee;
2 adding a new chapter to Title 2 RCW; and providing an expiration
3 date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** There is created an interbranch advisory
6 committee consisting of the following members:

7 (1) Two legislative members, one from each of the two largest
8 caucuses of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of
9 the house of representatives. One member shall be a member of a
10 committee having jurisdiction over general civil or criminal law
11 matters and the other member shall be a member of a committee having
12 jurisdiction over the state operating budget;

13 (2) Two legislative members, one from each of the two largest
14 caucuses of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate. One
15 member shall be a member of a committee having jurisdiction over
16 general civil or criminal law matters and the other member shall be a
17 member of a committee having jurisdiction over the state operating
18 budget;

19 (3) One person representing the governor's office, appointed by
20 the governor;

1 (4) One person representing the attorney general's office,
2 appointed by the attorney general;

3 (5) One person representing cities, appointed by the association
4 of Washington cities;

5 (6) One person who is an elected county councilmember
6 representing counties, appointed by the Washington state association
7 of counties;

8 (7) One person representing court clerks, appointed by the
9 Washington state association of county clerks;

10 (8) Eight members from the judicial branch, appointed by the
11 chief justice in consultation with the board of judicial
12 administration, supreme court, court of appeals, superior court
13 judges association, association of Washington superior court
14 administrators, Washington association of juvenile court
15 administrators, district and municipal court judges association,
16 district and municipal court management association, administrative
17 office of the courts, and access to justice board; and

18 (9) One person representing the office of public defense and one
19 person representing the office of civil legal aid, who shall serve as
20 nonvoting members. Nonvoting members must be consulted by the
21 interbranch advisory committee as needed.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The purpose of the interbranch advisory
23 committee is to foster cooperation, communication, coordination,
24 collaboration, and planning regarding issues of mutual concern among
25 the three branches of state government. An additional purpose of the
26 committee is to suggest ways to provide access to justice and to
27 court services in a just and equitable manner.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The interbranch advisory committee
29 must select cochairs at its initial meeting. One cochair must be a
30 legislative member and the other cochair must be a judicial member.
31 The committee may set its own meeting schedule. The committee shall
32 discuss issues of mutual concern between the branches. Examples
33 include, but are not limited to:

34 (a) Funding legislative mandates;

35 (b) Initiatives related to access to justice;

36 (c) Issues of local concern;

37 (d) Courthouse security; and

38 (e) Court technology infrastructure.

1 (2) Staff support for the committee will be jointly provided by
2 the legislative branch and the administrative office of the courts.
3 The office of financial management is directed to provide support as
4 requested by the cochairs.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The interbranch advisory committee shall
6 submit a recommendation to the legislative committees having
7 jurisdiction over general civil or criminal law matters and having
8 jurisdiction over the state operating budget by November 1, 2024, on
9 whether the committee should be legislatively renewed or changed in
10 any way.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This chapter expires January 1, 2026.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act
13 constitute a new chapter in Title 2 RCW.

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