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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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S.B. 318*
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Rules and Reference

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Kunze and Williams

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SUMMARY

- Extends the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission and its members' terms of office from December 31, 2020, until December 31, 2021.
- Requires the Commission to continue to plan and carry out events and activities that honor the women's suffrage movement and raise awareness of, and educate the public about, the importance and historical significance of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote, throughout 2021.
- Establishes that all appointed members of the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and may be discharged from CSRAB by the appointing authority without cause.
- Establishes that appointed members of CSRAB, who are members of the General Assembly, serve a term of an unspecified length at the pleasure of the appointing authority.
- Specifies that during the current General Assembly, if a member of the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (JLEC) is charged with or indicted for a violation of a federal law prohibiting racketeering, that member's seat on JLEC is deemed vacant.
- Declares an emergency.

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Rules and Reference Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Extension of Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission

The bill extends the Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission until December 31, 2021. Under current law, the Commission ceases to exist on December 31, 2020. The Commission was created in recognition of the 100th anniversaries of the proposal and ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote. The bill also extends the Commission members’ terms of office from December 31, 2020, until December 31, 2021. It maintains continuing law that permits a member of the General Assembly appointed to the Commission to remain a Commission member only so long as the member remains in office.

The bill also requires the Commission to continue to plan and carry out events and activities throughout Ohio that honor the women’s suffrage movement and raise awareness of, and educate the public about, the importance and historical significance of the Nineteenth Amendment throughout 2021. Under current law, the Commission is required to plan and carry out these events and activities throughout 2020.¹

Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board

The bill establishes that all appointed members of the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and may be discharged from CSRAB by the appointing authority without cause. Furthermore, the bill specifies that an individual who is an appointed member of CSRAB, before the bill’s effective date, may be discharged without cause by the member’s appointing authority on or after that date. The bill retains existing law for nonlegislator members serving three-year terms, but amends provisions of current law that: (1) specify that each member holds office from the date of the member’s appointment until the end of the term, and (2) require that each member continue in office after the expiration date of the member’s term until the member’s successor takes office, or until a period of 60 days has elapsed, whichever occurs first. The bill specifies that a member may be reappointed, provided the member continues to meet all other eligibility requirements.

The bill establishes that appointed members of CSRAB, who are members of the General Assembly, serve a term of an unspecified length at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Under current law, the members serve three-year terms provided that they maintain membership in the General Assembly.²

Joint Legislative Ethics Committee

The bill specifies that during the current General Assembly, if a member of the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (JLEC) is or has been charged with or indicted for a violation of 18

¹ Section 1(B), (C), and (E).

² R.C. 105.41; Section 5.

U.S.C. 1962 (a federal law prohibiting racketeering), that member's seat on JLEC is deemed vacant. Under the bill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, as applicable, must appoint a member to fill the vacancy not later than 15 days after the seat becomes vacant.

Under continuing law, among other duties, JLEC hears ethics complaints and, as appropriate, recommends sanctions against legislators, legislative staff, and General Assembly candidates. JLEC consists of 12 members, with three appointed by the President from each Senate caucus and three appointed by the Speaker from each House caucus. The statute specifies that each member of JLEC remains on the Committee through the end of the member's term in the legislature, and does not allow a member to be removed unless the person is no longer a member of the General Assembly. The bill creates a temporary exception to that restriction.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-27-20
Reported, S. General Gov't & Agency Review	06-10-20
Passed Senate (32-0)	06-10-20
Reported, H. Rules & Reference	---

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³ Section 6. See also R.C. 101.34, not in the bill.