

CHAPTER 480

[Substitute House Bill No. 833]

EFFICIENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT—TEMPORARY
COMMISSION

AN ACT Relating to efficiency in government; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) There is hereby created a temporary commission to be known as the Washington state commission for efficiency and accountability in government, hereafter referred to as the commission.

(2) The commission shall consist of fourteen members as follows:

(a) Six members appointed by the governor including but not limited to representatives from private sector business and industry, labor unions, and public interest organizations;

(b) Three members appointed jointly by the president of the senate and speaker of the house including but not limited to representatives from private sector business and industry, labor unions, and public interest organizations;

(c) One representative from each of the four legislative caucuses to be appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house; and

(d) The governor shall be a member and the chair of the commission.

The vice-chair shall be selected by the commission.

(3) Nonlegislative members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses for attending meetings of the commission as provided for in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses for attending meetings of the commission as provided for in RCW 44.04.120.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The commission shall develop recommendations for legislative and executive consideration that will:

(1) Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of state government programs and reduce costs;

(2) Enhance executive accountability and the organizational soundness of state government;

(3) Enhance legislative oversight and program accountability; and

(4) Improve managerial competence and workforce productivity.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. To carry out the provisions of section 2 of this act, the commission shall:

(1) Prepare a list of selected programs funded by the state that will be subject to review by the commission. The list shall include programs that have a major fiscal impact on the state and where the commission determines that operational and organizational improvements are feasible. The

reviews shall concentrate on identifying improvements that will result in increased program efficiency and effectiveness and reduced costs, greater accountability to the general public, increased information and data relative to governmental expenditures, and increased managerial competence and workforce productivity.

(2) Develop a four-year plan for the orderly review of each program identified under subsection (1) of this section. The plan shall contain a timetable for the completion of each program review and an estimate of the resources needed to carry out the reviews. The plan shall be updated annually.

(3) Secure private sector financial and other support for the conduct of the reviews.

(4) Establish the scope of program reviews, select review teams and direct those teams to conduct the program reviews identified by the commission. The review teams shall report to the commission their findings and recommendations for organizational and operational improvements.

(5) Decide upon recommendations for executive action or legislation necessary to implement the operational or organizational improvements developed by program review teams.

(6) Submit the following reports to the legislature:

(a) By December 31, 1987, a four-year plan required by subsection (2) of this section;

(b) Upon completion of each program review, its recommendations for operational and organizational improvements for the program reviewed. The report shall include estimates of savings which may result from recommended legislative or executive action.

(c) By December 31, 1988, a report summarizing recommendations of the commission for legislative and executive actions to accomplish operational and organizational improvements identified in completed program reviews and any executive action initiated as a result of findings of a program review. Thereafter, the commission shall report to the legislature annually, no later than December 31, on its progress toward completing the four-year review plan and on its recommendations for operational and organizational improvements in state government.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) It is the intent of the legislature that the program review activities of the commission be funded, to the extent practicable, by contributions received from the private sector. The office of financial management and the legislature shall provide staff as required by the commission for developing the plan for proper reviews and undertaking such reviews. To the extent permitted by law, all agencies of the state shall cooperate fully with the commission in carrying out its duties under this act.

(2) The commission may receive and expend gifts, grants, and endowments from private sources to carry out the purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. The commission may contract for such services as are necessary to supplement the staff as provided in section 4 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. This act shall expire December 31, 1991.

Passed the House April 22, 1987.

Passed the Senate April 16, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 19, 1987.

CHAPTER 481

[Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 644]

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY CERTIFICATION

AN ACT Relating to laboratory certification by the department of ecology; and adding new sections to chapter 43.21A RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 43.21A RCW to read as follows:

The director of ecology may certify environmental laboratories which conduct tests or prepare data for submittal to the department. Fees for certification may be charged by the department to cover the department's costs. Such certification may consider:

- (1) Evaluating protocols and procedures;
- (2) Determining the accuracy and reliability of test results, including internal quality assurance and quality control procedures and proficiency at analyzing test samples supplied by the department;
- (3) Certifying laboratories based on prior certification by another state or federal agency whose certification requirements are deemed satisfactory by the director; and
- (4) Such other factors as the director considers appropriate.

The director of ecology may require that any person submitting laboratory data or test results to the department use laboratories certified by the department or laboratories which participate in quality assurance programs administered by the federal environmental protection agency.

Persons receiving a federal permit for wastewater discharge who operate a lab solely for their own use and who require certification for only conventional pollutants shall not be charged an annual certification fee in excess of the actual costs of providing the certification or four thousand dollars, whichever is less. Conventional pollutants as used in this subsection means those conventional pollutants regulated under the federal clean water act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1314).