

meet: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall apply to race meets which are nonprofit in nature, or of six days or less or which have a total annual handle of less than two hundred thousand dollars: PROVIDED, That the additional one percent of the gross receipts of all parimutuel machines at each race meet and the amount retained by the commission as specified in RCW 67.16.100 shall be deposited daily in a time deposit by the commission and the interest derived therefrom shall be distributed annually on an equal basis to those county legislative authorities that operate fairs, authorized by chapter 36.37 RCW, and race courses at which independent race meets are held which are nonprofit in nature and are of six days or less: PROVIDED, That such county legislative authorities have approved and are operating a program of use for said race course for year-round equine training and quartering: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That said distributed funds shall be used for the purpose of maintaining and upgrading the respective racing courses and equine quartering areas of said nonprofit meets. The commission shall not permit the licensees to take into consideration the benefits derived from this section in establishing purses.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Passed the Senate April 5, 1977.

Passed the House June 20, 1977.

Approved by the Governor July 15, 1977.

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CHAPTER 373

[Substitute House Bill No. 660]

LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE— ESTABLISHED

AN ACT Relating to the legislature; establishing the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee; and adding a new chapter to Title 44 RCW and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is hereby created a legislative evaluation and accountability program committee which shall consist of four senators and four representatives from the legislature. The senate members of the committee shall be appointed by the president of the senate and the house members of the committee shall be appointed by the speaker of the house. Not more than two members from each house shall be from the same political party. All members shall be appointed before the close of the 1977 session of the legislature and before the close of each regular session thereafter. Members shall be subject to confirmation, as to the senate members by the senate, and as to the house members by the house.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The term of office of the members of the committee who continue to be members of the senate and house shall be from the close of the session in which they were appointed or elected as provided in section 1 of this act until the close of the next regular session, or, in the event that such appointments or elections are not made, until the close of the next regular session during which

successors are appointed or elected. The term of office of such committee members as shall not continue to be members of the senate and house shall cease upon the convening of the next regular session of the legislature after their confirmation, election, or appointment. Vacancies on the committee shall be filled by appointment by the remaining members. All such vacancies shall be filled from the same political party and from the same house as the member whose seat was vacated.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. On and after the commencement of a succeeding regular session of the legislature, those members of the committee who continue to be members of the senate and house, respectively, shall continue as members of the committee as indicated in section 2 of this act and the committee shall continue with all its powers, duties, authorities, records, papers, personnel and staff, and all funds made available for its use.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The members of the committee shall serve without additional compensation, but shall be reimbursed in accordance with RCW 44.04-.120 while attending sessions of the committee or meetings of any subcommittee of the committee, or on other committee business authorized by the committee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. All expenses incurred by the committee, including salaries and expenses of employees, shall be paid upon voucher forms as provided by the administrator and signed by the chairman or vice chairman of the committee and attested by the secretary of said committee, and the authority of said chairman and secretary to sign vouchers shall continue until their successors are selected after each ensuing session of the legislature. Vouchers may be drawn on funds appropriated by law for the committee: PROVIDED, That the senate and the house may authorize the committee to draw on funds appropriated by the legislature for legislative expenses.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The committee shall have the power and duty to appoint its own chairman, vice chairman, and other officers; and to make rules for orderly procedure.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. The committee shall acquire a data processing service capability under the exclusive jurisdiction and control of the legislature acting through the committee and its administrator for the purpose of providing the legislature and its staff with the type of information required for in-depth analysis and monitoring of state agency expenditures, budgets, and related fiscal matters. The legislative evaluation and accountability program established in this section may be referred to in this chapter as the LEAP administration.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. To carry out the provisions of section 7 of this act the LEAP administration shall provide for:

- (1) Automated data bases and application systems in support of legislative requirements to monitor, evaluate, analyze, report, and review;
- (2) Maintenance of computer software, application programs, data bases, and related documentation;
- (3) Education, training, and programming services;
- (4) Procedural documentation support; and
- (5) Consulting assistance on special projects.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. The committee shall have the following powers:

(1) To have timely access, upon written request of the administrator, to all machine readable, printed, and other data of state agencies relative to expenditures, budgets, and related fiscal matters;

(2) To suggest changes relative to state accounting and reporting systems to the office of program planning and fiscal management or its successor and to require timely written responses to such suggestions; and

(3) To enter into contracts; and when entering into any contract for computer access, make necessary provisions relative to the scheduling of computer time and usage in recognition of the unique requirements and priorities of the legislative process.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. The committee shall have the power to make reports to the legislature. The committee shall keep complete minutes of its meetings. The committee shall make and distribute its final report to the members of the ensuing legislature at least ten days prior to the convening of the legislature.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. Each person who appears before the committee, other than a state official or employee, may upon request receive for attendance the fees and mileage provided for witnesses in civil cases in courts of record in accordance with the provisions of RCW 2.40.010, which shall be audited and paid upon the presentation of proper vouchers signed by such person and approved by the secretary and chairman of the committee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. The committee is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint an officer to be known as the LEAP administrator who shall be the executive officer of the committee and assist in its duties and shall compile information for the committee.

The committee is hereby authorized and empowered to select and employ temporary and permanent personnel and fix their salaries.

The duties of the administrator shall be as follows:

(1) To manage the LEAP operations.

(2) To assist the several standing committees of the house and senate; to appear before other legislative committees; and to assist any other legislative committee upon instruction by the committee.

(3) To provide the legislature with information obtained under the direction of the committee.

(4) To maintain a record of all work performed by the administrator under the direction of the committee and to keep and make available all documents, data, and reports submitted to the administrator by any legislative committee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The committee is hereby expressly exempted from the provisions of chapter 43.105 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. The committee shall cooperate, act, and function with Washington state legislative committees and may cooperate with the councils or committees of other states similar to this committee and with other interstate research organizations.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. Sections 1 through 13 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 44 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House June 16, 1977.

Passed the Senate June 15, 1977.

Approved by the Governor July 15, 1977.

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