Non-Standing Committees Focused on Oversight

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Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee*

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"Review and comment upon administrative regulations submitted to it by the Legislative Research Commission; make nonbinding determinations concerning the statutory authority to promulgate administrative regulations filed with the Legislative Research Commission; review existing administrative regulations; recommend the amendment, repeal, or enactment of statutes relating to administrative regulations; conduct a continuous study of the administrative regulations procedure and the needs of administrative bodies; study statutes relating to administrative hearings; and make legislative recommendations" (committee website).

Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Subcommittee*

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"The committee is a permanent subcommittee of the Legislative Research Commission and is charged with overseeing (1) the expenditure of funds budgeted for capital projects; (2) the allotment of funds from the Emergency Repair, Maintenance, and Replacement Account and the Capital Construction and Equipment Purchase Contingency Account; (3) the state's acquisition of capital assets, including the lease of real property; (4) the issuance of bonds by the Commonwealth and related individual projects; and (5) the issuance of bonds by or on behalf of local school districts" (committee website).

Education Assessment & Accountability Review Subcommittee*

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"To review administrative regulations and advise the Kentucky Board of Education concerning the implementation of the state system of assessment and accountability and to provide oversight and direction to the Office of Education Accountability" (committee website).

Government Contract Review Committee

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"Provide legislative review of all nonexempt memoranda of agreement by and between state agencies and of all nonexempt personal service contracts by state agencies and by off-budget agencies that include, but are not limited to, the Kentucky Lottery Corporation, the Kentucky Housing Corporation, state universities within the Commonwealth, the Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance Corporation, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, Kentucky Student Loan Corporation, the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and other municipal corporations, to examine the stated need for the service, whether the service could or should be performed by state personnel, the amount and duration of the contract or agreement, and the appropriateness of any exchange of resources or responsibilities" (committee website).

Information Technology Oversight Committee

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"Review investment and funding strategies to improve or modernize state agency information technology systems and applications, including legacy systems, cybersecurity systems, and operation and maintenance of state agency information technology systems or applications; determine the

appropriate organizational structure for deployment of technology across the Commonwealth; and review the latest information technology developments trending across the nation" (committee website).

Legislative Oversight & Investigations Committee

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"The committee shall have the discretionary power to review the operations of state agencies and programs, to determine whether funds are being spent for the purposes for which they were appropriated, to evaluate the efficiency of program operations, and to evaluate the impact of state government reorganizations" (committee website).

Purpose, powers, and duties of committee -- Confidentiality of working papers and other information -- Closed meetings authorized -- Witnesses -- Subpoenas.

1. "The purpose of the Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee shall be to serve as the main investigative committee in the General Assembly. The committee shall have the authority to investigate the subjects within the committee's legislative jurisdiction and within the jurisdiction of other standing or statutory committees of the General Assembly.
2. "The committee shall have the discretionary power to:
    - "(a) Make studies of the operations of state agencies to ascertain that sums appropriated have been, or are being, expended for the purposes for which such appropriations were made and to evaluate the effectiveness of programs in accomplishing legislative intent;
    - "(b) Study on a continuing basis the operations, practices, and duties of state agencies, as they relate to efficiency in the utilization of space, personnel, equipment, and facilities;
    - "(c) Make such special studies and reports of the operations and functions of state agencies as it deems appropriate and as may be requested by the General Assembly;

- "(d) Make such reports on its findings and recommendations at such time and in such manner as the committee deems proper, submitting such reports to the agencies concerned, to the Governor and to the General Assembly. Such reports shall relate to the following matters:
  - "1. Whether any state agency is carrying out only those activities or programs authorized by legal or administrative action; or
  - "2. Whether the programs and activities of a state agency, or a particular program or activity is being operated efficiently, effectively, or in accordance with legislative or administrative intent; or
  - "3. Whether there is a need for change in any authorized activity or program of a state agency; or
  - "4. Whether any reorganization of a state agency, or group of state agencies, is needed or justified to accomplish the results of programs or activities; or
  - "5. Any combination of the purposes specified in this or any other section of KRS 6.900 to 6.935;
- "(e) Treat information obtained or prepared by the committee or its staff as confidential working papers subject to release according to the operating rules and procedures adopted by the committee, and such information shall be exempt from the open records requirements contained in KRS 61.870 to 61.884. The committee may close certain meetings and project briefings to protect research pursuant to KRS 61.805 to 61.850, to allow the exchange of confidential materials, and information, to protect the identity of witnesses, when necessary, and to protect the integrity of the study. Any information protected by federal laws shall not be subject to public release;
- "(f) Consider and act on requests for studies submitted by legislators, legislative committees, elected officials of state government, state cabinet secretaries, and department and agency heads. Requests shall be submitted in writing and shall state reasons to support the request. The decision of the committee to grant or deny such a request shall be final;
- "(g) Review any conditions or circumstances that may indicate the necessity or desirability of enacting new or additional legislation addressing subjects within its jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of any standing or statutory committee;
- "(h) Evaluate the effect of laws enacted to reorganize any branch of state government;

- "(i) Conduct studies directed by joint resolution of the General Assembly;
- "(j) When the General Assembly is not in session, conduct studies:
  - "1. Initiated by joint agreement of the co-chairs;
  - "2. Initiated by a majority vote of the committee; or
  - "3. Requested by the Legislative Research Commission or an interim joint committee thereof. In the event two (2) or more studies are requested, the priority among them shall be determined by the committee;
- "(k) After voting to undertake a review under paragraph (j)(2.) of this subsection, the committee shall notify the chair of the committee of relevant jurisdiction;
- "(l) To determine if a witness should be prosecuted for perjury by testifying falsely before the committee, and to institute appropriate penal proceedings as provided by law. Any finding under this paragraph shall require a majority vote of the committee; and
- "(m) Conduct a study of any matter without regard to jurisdiction of the matter being conferred to another statutory or standing committee.

3. "Each witness who appears before the committee by its subpoena or order, other than an officer or employee of the state, shall be entitled to the fees and mileage provided for witnesses in civil cases in Circuit Court, which shall be audited and paid upon the presentation of proper vouchers sworn to by such witnesses and approved by the chair of the committee.
4. "The committee may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of documents, books, papers, or other records. Subpoenas may be issued by agreement of the co-chairs or by a vote of the majority of the members of the committee and shall be served in the same manner as subpoenas for witnesses in civil cases. All provisions of law relative to subpoenas issued in such cases, including compensation of witnesses, shall apply to subpoenas issued by the committee" (Kentucky Statute 6.910).

Enforcement of committee subpoenas -- Penalty for failure to comply.

1. "Any witness who fails to comply with a subpoena issued pursuant to KRS 6.910 may be fined by the committee an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars ($100) per day, up to a maximum total fine of one thousand dollars ($1,000). The committee shall have the authority to enforce compliance with subpoenas, including holding the noncompliant witness in contempt of the

General Assembly which includes any action that could be taken by a Circuit Court to enforce compliance with a subpoena issued pursuant to the authority of a Kentucky Court of Justice. Upon petition by the committee, any Circuit Court within the jurisdiction of which any inquiry is being carried on or having jurisdiction over the witness may, in case of refusal to obey a subpoena or order of the committee, issue an order requiring compliance. Any failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as contempt thereof in addition to any other duly authorized punishment.

2. "The Circuit Court shall render a final judgement within forty-five (45) days from the date:
    - "(a) When the petition was filed by the committee; or
    - "(b) Of the commencement of any action or motion by any witness seeking to quash or otherwise resist compliance with a subpoena issued by the committee" (Kentucky Statute 6.912).

Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee

Website

Membership; calendar; and meeting materials and minutes available on website.

Purpose/Jurisdiction

"Matters pertaining to the Agricultural Development Board, including requests to the board for grants and loans; planning by the board to establish short-term and long-term goals, to devise strategies, and to make investments that will assist farmers and the administrative, financial, and programmatic activities of the board; expenditures under the Early Childhood Development Fund and the Kentucky Health Care Improvement Fund; efforts of agencies and educational institutions to assist in the revitalization and diversification of tobacco farms; efforts of institutions of public postsecondary research in conducting alternative crop development research; review of county agricultural development council plans, and the use of Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement money" (committee website).

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*Subcommittees of the Legislative Research Commission