

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1991

As Passed House:

March 9, 1995

Title: An act relating to reimbursement of the legislative budget committee for program and fiscal reviews.

Brief Description: Reimbursing the legislative budget committee.

Sponsors: Representatives Silver, Ogden, Sommers, Valle, Chandler, Stevens and Fuhrman; by request of Legislative Budget Committee.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Appropriations: 3/2/95, 3/3/95 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 3/9/95, 95-0.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 30 members: Representatives Silver, Chairman; Clements, Vice Chairman; Huff, Vice Chairman; Pelesky, Vice Chairman; Sommers, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Valle, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Basich; Beeksma; Brumsickle; Carlson; Chappell; Cooke; Crouse; G. Fisher; Foreman; Grant; Hargrove; Hickel; Jacobsen; Lambert; Lisk; McMorris; Poulsen; Reams; Rust; Sehlin; Sheahan; Talcott; Thibaudeau and Wolfe.

Staff: Nancy Stevenson (786-7137).

Background: The Washington Sunset Act was passed in 1977 to establish a system for the review, termination, continuation, or modification of state agencies. Under the Sunset Act, the Legislative Budget Committee (LBC) is required to conduct a program and fiscal review of any state agency or program scheduled for termination. An agency or program termination can be established as a part of the original enabling legislation or subsequent legislative action.

Since 1985 the LBC has conducted 38 sunset reviews, an average of eight sunset reviews per biennium, at a cost of \$360,000 a biennium. During 1995, three program and fiscal reviews are scheduled under the Sunset Act.

Summary of Bill: A section is added to the Washington Sunset Act specifying that the Legislative Budget Committee be reimbursed for the full cost of a sunset review by the agency under review.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested March 1, 1995.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: This measure allows the LBC greater flexibility in allocating existing resources for other mandated or member request studies.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Representative Val Ogden, prime sponsor.