

ETHICS COMMISSION

Deputy Administrator Position and Lobbying Fee Increase
[LFB Paper #295]

Motion:

Move the following:

- provide 1.0 unclassified position annually (0.65 GPR and 0.35 PR) to serve as a deputy administrator. Provide \$63,400 GPR and \$34,200 PR in 2021-22 and \$84,500 GPR and \$45,500 PR in 2022-23 for salary and fringe benefits.
- delete 1.0 classified ethics specialist position (0.5 GPR and 0.5 PR), effective October 1, 2021. Reduce expenditure authority associated with the position by \$32,000 GPR and \$32,000 PR in 2021-22 and \$42,700 GPR and \$42,700 PR in 2022-23.
- increase the principal registration fee from \$375 to \$385 and increase the lobbyist authorization fee from \$125 to \$135, beginning in the 2023-24 legislative session.

Note:

This motion would create a deputy administrator position, as specified under Alternative 1 of Paper #295, and delete a current ethics specialist position. To fund the difference in compensation, the motion would increase certain lobbying fees by \$10 per two-year session, starting with the 2023-24 legislative session.

Under current law, the Ethics Commission is responsible for the regulation of lobbyists and is required to charge certain fees for lobbying activities. Each principal that spends more than \$500 in a calendar year on lobbying activities must pay to file a principal registration form with the Ethics Commission. In addition, the principal must pay to file an authorization form allowing each lobbyist to represent the principal. The Commission's staff includes 5.0 ethics specialist positions, each funded from a combination of GPR and PR from lobbying fees. All of the positions are currently filled.

[Change to Base: \$73,200 GPR, \$5,000 PR, and \$22,700 PR-REV, and 0.15 GPR and -0.15 PR positions]