

7.090 Legislative Research Commission -- Membership -- Vacancies -- Meetings -- Vote required to act -- Compensation -- Director -- Personnel -- Contracts.

- (1) There is created a Legislative Research Commission as an independent agency in the legislative branch of state government, which is exempt from control by the executive branch and from reorganization by the Governor. The Commission shall have the duties, responsibilities, and powers assigned to it or authorized it by the General Assembly, by statute or otherwise.
- (2) The Legislative Research Commission shall be composed of the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority floor leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the majority and minority whips of the Senate, the majority and minority whips of the House, and the majority and minority caucus chairmen of the Senate and House of Representatives. Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled by the remaining members thereof who are of the same chamber membership and political party affiliation as the person having vacated Commission membership. If the vacancy is in the membership of the House of Representatives, the successor shall be from the House, and if the vacancy is from the Senate membership of the Commission, the successor shall be from the Senate. A member thus elected to fill any vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his predecessor. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve as co-chairmen of the Commission.
- (3) The Legislative Research Commission shall meet during regular and special sessions of the General Assembly, and during the intervals between sessions at such times and places as the co-chairmen may determine. Meetings of the Commission shall be called by the co-chairmen on their own initiative, or at the written request of any three (3) members of the Commission. Any action of the Commission shall require an affirmative roll call vote of a majority of the Commission's entire membership. For attending meetings of the Commission or any of its subcommittees whose membership consists only of members of the Commission between sessions of the General Assembly, the members of the Commission shall be paid their necessary traveling expenses and in addition thereto an amount per day equal to the per diem compensation they receive during any session. For attending meetings of interim joint committees or other Commission subcommittees, members of the Commission shall be paid an amount per day equal to that received by all other members of the committees or subcommittees who are not designated as chairmen or co-chairmen thereof.
- (4) The Commission shall appoint a director, who shall have had graduate training in government in a recognized university or college or practical experience in governmental administration, and who shall hold office at the pleasure of the Commission. The salary of the director shall be determined by the Commission. The Commission shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the employment of such personnel as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of KRS 7.090 to 7.110.

- (5) Any professional, clerical, or other employees required by any committee appointed by the General Assembly shall be provided to the committee by the Legislative Research Commission. The chairman of the committee shall advise the director of the Legislative Research Commission of his need for personnel. In the event that the personnel required by any committee cannot be met by the staff of the Legislative Research Commission, the director shall employ personnel as necessary to meet the needs of the committee, and shall fix the rate of compensation of the employees.
- (6) The director shall, at the discretion of the Commission and under its supervision and control, provide for the allocation of the work and activities of all employees of the Commission.
- (7) The Commission may, in effectuating the provisions of KRS 7.090 to 7.110, contract with any public or private agency or educational institution or any individual for research studies, the gathering of information, or the printing and publication of its reports.
- (8) The Legislative Research Commission shall constitute administrative offices for the General Assembly and the director shall serve as administrative officer for the assembly when it is not otherwise in session.
- (9) A Senate bill may be pre-filed or approved as pre-filed by an interim joint committee if it receives the affirmative votes of a majority of the Senate members of that interim joint committee. A House of Representatives bill may be pre-filed or approved as pre-filed by an interim joint committee if it receives the affirmative votes of a majority of the House members of that interim joint committee. An interim joint committee shall not pre-file a bill or approve a bill as pre-filed in any other manner.
- (10) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall have the authority to approve the in-state and out-of-state per diem and expenses for members of their respective chambers.
- (11) The Legislative Research Commission shall display the national motto "In God We Trust" on the wall directly above and behind the dais of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The display shall be consistent with the historic and patriotic display of the national motto located directly above and behind the dais of the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Effective: March 24, 2006

History: Amended 2006 Ky. Acts ch. 34, sec. 6, effective March 24, 2006. -- Amended 2003 Ky. Acts ch. 185, sec. 11, effective March 31, 2003. -- Amended 1994 Ky. Acts ch. 486, sec. 12, effective July 15, 1994. -- Amended 1982 Ky. Acts ch. 129, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1982; and ch. 443, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1982. -- Amended 1976 Ky. Acts ch. 83, sec. 11, effective March 29, 1976. -- Amended 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 353, sec. 1; and ch. 370, sec. 1, effective June 21, 1974. -- Amended 1972 Ky. Acts ch. 172, sec. 1, effective June 16, 1972. -- Amended 1966 Ky. Acts ch. 36, sec. 1, effective June 16, 1966. -- Amended 1960 Ky. Acts ch. 134, sec. 1, effective March 26, 1960. -- Amended 1956 (1st Extra. Sess.) Ky. Acts ch. 7, Art. XII, sec. 1, effective March 29, 1956. -- Amended 1954 Ky. Acts ch. 9, sec. 1, effective June 17, 1954. -- Created 1948 Ky. Acts ch. 15, sec. 1, effective June 17, 1948.