

JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION, CREATION OF
Act of Jul. 1, 1937, P.L. 2460, No. 459
AN ACT

Cl. 46

Creating a joint legislative commission, to be known as the Joint State Government Commission; providing for its membership, chairman and executive committee; defining its powers and duties; and defining the powers and duties of standing committees of the General Assembly. (Title amended May 15, 1955, P.L.1605, No.535)

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the entire membership of the House of Representatives and the entire membership of the Senate shall constitute a continuing joint legislative commission, to be known as the Joint State Government Commission. The President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of each house, the majority and minority whips of each house, and the chairman of the majority and minority caucuses of each house, shall constitute the executive committee of the commission. The President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of each house, the majority and minority whips of each house, and the chairman of the majority and minority caucuses of each house may designate any member of the Senate or House, respectively, to act in their stead and to serve at their discretion as a member of the executive committee. The commission shall organize by the selection of a chairman who shall be selected by the executive committee and who shall be ex officio a member of the executive committee without a vote. The commission shall have power to employ a director and such professional, technical, clerical and other assistance as may be deemed necessary. The commission shall have power to call upon any department or agency of the State Government for such information as it deems pertinent to the studies in which it is engaged. The commission shall also have the power to designate persons, other than members of the General Assembly, to act in advisory capacities. The commission shall organize within thirty days after the final enactment of this act, and thereafter the executive committee shall hold the organization meeting within thirty days after the convening of the regular session of the General Assembly in odd-numbered years beginning with the regular session of 1957. Meetings of the commission shall be scheduled by the executive committee. The executive committee shall conduct the business of the commission and shall meet at the call of the chairman or upon written request of six or more members thereof.

(1 amended Nov. 20, 1969, P.L.301, No.128)

Section 2. The commission shall have power and its duty shall be:

(a) To make such investigations and studies and to gather such information as may be deemed useful to General Assembly and to the standing committees of the Senate and the House of

Representatives.

(b) To sit during the interim between regular legislative sessions convening in odd-numbered years.

(c) From time to time, to report to the General Assembly or to the various standing committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives such findings and recommendations accompanied with such drafts of legislation as it deems necessary for the information of and consideration by the General Assembly.

(d) To furnish such technical staff services as shall be requested by the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives during regular or special sessions of the General Assembly.

(2 amended Dec. 8, 1959, P.L.1740, No.646)

Section 3. The commission shall undertake, through the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, such studies and investigations as the General Assembly by resolution shall direct.

When a study or investigation is to be made, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate the appropriate standing committee of House and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall designate the appropriate standing committee of the Senate, to make such study or investigation. These two standing committees, when so designated, shall constitute a joint study committee of the commission for such purpose.

During the interim between regular sessions of the General Assembly which convene in odd-numbered years, each joint study committee assigned to make a study shall meet at the call of the chairman of the commission or at the joint call of the chairman of the designated standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

(3 amended Dec. 8, 1959, P.L.1740, No.646)

Section 4. An item of appropriation shall be inserted in the General Appropriation Bill to pay the expenses of the members of the commission as constituted by this act, and for the salary of the director, clerical and other hire and incidental expenses. No member of the commission shall receive any remuneration, salary or expenses as a member of the commission other than remuneration, salary and expenses as a member of the General Assembly and travelling expenses incurred upon the business of the commission or its study committees. (4 amended Dec. 8, 1959, P.L.1740, No.646)

Section 5. For the purposes of this act, the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives shall continue during the interim between sessions convening in odd-numbered years.

(5 amended Dec. 8, 1959, P.L.1740, No.646)