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## October 2005 – Commission Update

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> the Human Resources and Management Committees met jointly. The committees first discussed seven points summarized by Dave Frohnmayer at the first full commission meeting in September. The points were associated with significant issues affecting the legislative branch and process and could be used as a tool to focus discussion in the full commission. Committee members also spoke of the committee process used by the commission and possible changes to that process.

For the majority of the meeting and for the purpose of setting a baseline of knowledge for future committee discussions, committee members received written and oral testimony from caucus offices and staff offices in the legislative branch about staffing levels, hiring practices and job duties in each office.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, The Public Institution Committee met in the afternoon to learn about issues related to public access to the legislative process and the capitol including a review of information available on the legislative website. The committee also heard from Pat Hearn, Executive Director, Government Standards and Practices Commission and Ted Reutlinger, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel about ethics rules and regulations for legislators and the lobby. Finally, members of the committee discussed what they see as priorities that will be discussed by The Public Institution Committee.

The Facilities Committee met on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Initially, Chair Wilson outlined the priorities to be addressed by the committee and then the committee heard from Legislative Media about the Video Distribution Analysis Project which is an opportunity to explore options to broadcast video coverage of capitol activities more broadly. The committee also heard from newspaper and radio reporters about their ability to report from inside the capitol and that improved technology would help the Press Corps communicate with their offices. Legislative Information Systems presented the committee with a list of projects that they are working on or gathering information about, several of which are commission proposals assigned to the Facilities Committee. Finally, committee members and the audience took a tour of the Legislative Media video facilities and offices for the Press Corps to see first hand, where video production takes place.

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Process Committee met. Committee members had a lengthy discussion about priorities that they should focus on and what research and background they will need to continue with their work. The committee also reviewed the seven points summarized by Dave Frohnmayer at the first full commission meeting in September and refined them for use by the full commission. Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Officer presented information to the committee about how a budget is developed and approved by the legislature and had a brief conversation about other budgeting processes.

During October, staff continued to collect, sort and consolidate proposals submitted to the commission. A new proposal table will be available for the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the full commission. Staff also worked with Legislative Information Systems to finalize details for the Commission website.