

## **FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

The Facilities Committee was responsible for studying technology issues, media coverage, the infrastructure of the capitol, office spaces, and safety and security of employees and the public accessing the building. The public is visiting the capitol more than ever, whether as tourists, school groups, or citizens participating in the legislative process. As the committee stressed during several discussions, the capitol is the peoples' house and it should be cared for not for benefit of the people who work in it, but as a symbol of democracy in Oregon.

Construction of the present capitol was completed in 1938. The House and Senate wings were added in 1977 to create office space for legislators and their staff, add hearing rooms and add office space for the Legislative Counsel, Fiscal and Revenue Offices. Since construction, improvements in technology have changed the legislative process and the way that constituents communicate with legislators.

### **TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA**

The committee focused much of their discussion on current and future technology and media needs allowing better communication between the public and the legislature. It was noted that the legislature is doing a good job of using technology and in-house media resources to make information available to the public and legislators, and they should be encouraged to continue and expand use where possible. However, specific improvements were recommended by the committee.

Although the legislature uses technology to expedite the legislative process and communicate with the public, the committee endorsed installation of a wireless network in the capitol. The wireless network will allow legislators, staff and the public to access the Internet almost anywhere in the capitol to retrieve or send information to legislators and staff that is pertinent to legislative discussions. The committee did not specifically endorse then concept of paperless chambers and committee rooms that some states have, but members acknowledged that the wireless network may move Oregon's legislative process in a more paperless direction.

Many resources are available to the public on the legislative website including individual member pages, search engines for current and previous legislation, and committee agendas. The public is also able to listen to live or archived audio files of committee meetings and floor sessions, and may also view live streaming video coverage. The public would like the ability to search indexed audio and video recordings on the internet, but the legislature must first invest in upgrades to media equipment to allow for improved recording and archiving capability. Committee members recommended that the legislature make the investment to improve and standardize media equipment in the capitol.

For several years, Legislative Media has partnered with the Oregon Public Access Network to deliver legislative programming to cable subscribers. This programming in the cable market has exposed the public to portions of committee meetings and floor sessions. There is need to provide more comprehensive legislative programming for the public, not the small sound-bites broadcast by conventional media; therefore the committee expressed support for a new project, the Oregon Channel, which will allow for coverage of legislative and public affairs programming 24 hours a day through public broadcasting channels.

### **CAPITOL INFRASTRUCTURE**

Committee members toured the capitol to see first-hand how the electrical and plumbing infrastructure is in need of significant repair. In portions of the old building, members also saw how construction has limited configuration of staff offices and location of electronic equipment. Committee members also

heard that there is concern for the safety of building occupants during and after an earthquake. Members heard that although the cost of capitol renovation will be high, the price will only increase over time and therefore; the sooner renovations can be completed the less expensive the projects will be.

A wing renovation plan was developed in the late 1990's, but the project was put on hold. The wings have overloaded network cable trays, bad air quality and circulation, fire 'chimneys', furniture that does not meet ergonomic standards, and a fire sprinkler system that is not up-to-code. The committee recommended that Legislative Administration work with the Legislative Assembly to update wing renovation plans, secure funding and move forward with the wing renovation project as soon as possible.

The committee also noted that similar renovations must occur to the old building. It is important to plan for a seismic upgrade to the capitol as well. Committee members also heard that there is a possibility that a new state office building may be built on the capitol mall, which could allow for some capitol occupants to be relocated to different buildings. Also, if the legislature transitions to annual sessions, a different load will be placed on the capitol in terms of office space, technology needs and public access. With all of these different projects and possibilities, the public and legislators need to understand and take ownership of the planning and projected cost of upcoming projects. The committee recommended that Legislative Administration develop a comprehensive plan that would include project details, timelines, approximate costs and funding mechanisms for all capitol infrastructure projects.

### SECURITY

The capitol is open for the public to visit and participate in the legislative process. However, after September 11<sup>th</sup> and incidents that compromised safety of legislators and staff, there is concern that the capitol is too open to the public. Committee members heard of ways to improve safety and security in the building including background checks on employees, more uniformed officers and securing the parking garage. Members stressed the importance of keeping the building open and accessible to the public but that the safety of legislators, staff and the public is critical.

### The Facilities Committee considered the following proposals.

TECHNOLOGY		
Number	Proposal	Commission Response
147	Add wireless access to the capitol	The <u>commission recommended</u> that wireless technology be added to the whole capitol and that the House and Senate develop rules regulating use of the technology. The recommendation will be discussed in depth later in the report.
008	Paperless floor sessions	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly use technology to the best of their ability to expedite the legislative process including: the possibility of using consoles or laptops on the floor on in committee; electronic bill book technology; and on-demand printing. The commission encourages the legislature to approve rules to govern the use of technology in committee meetings and on the floor.
114	Utilize internet communications more in the legislative process	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the Legislative Assembly is currently doing a good job distributing legislative information on the website and readily using electronic communication.

<b>MEDIA/OREGON CHANNEL</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>027</b>	Review of technology including TV coverage and websites	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly contribute funds as needed for the 24/7 Oregon Channel Pilot Program during the 2007 session. The recommendation will be discussed in depth later in the report.
<b>040</b>	Review distribution of video coverage of legislative activities	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly contribute funds as needed for the 24/7 Oregon Channel Pilot Program during the 2007 session.
<b>074</b>	Create a live log of on the internet or TV of floor session activity	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in the Oregon Channel recommendation.
<b>AUDIO/VIDEO HARDWARE AND ARCHIVES</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>014</b>	Determine if hearing rooms are adequately equipped for video and audio coverage	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the legislature fund audio and video upgrades in each hearing room and chambers to ensure consistent coverage; fund the “Recording and Archiving” budget option package so that legislative meetings can be indexed, easily searchable and archived with current technologies that are better suited for long-term storage; and to provide an adequate maintenance and replacement budget of the legislature’s audio and video systems to ensure that equipment is kept up-to-date with current technology.
<b>117</b>	Create searchable electronic files of ALL legislative meetings and discussions to be posted online the day of the event.	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in the recommendation related to the “Recording and Archiving” budget option package.
<b>118</b>	Make available on the internet, video recordings of legislative meetings with a written index as to where the main breaks are between subjects and bills under consideration.	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in the recommendation related to the “Recording and Archiving” budget option package.
<b>119</b>	Make available on the internet, audio recordings (.mp3 files) of legislative meetings with a written index as to where the main breaks are between subjects and bills under consideration.	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in the recommendation related to the “Recording and Archiving” budget option package.
<b>FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>n/a</b>	Comprehensive Facilities Plan	The <u>commission approved</u> that a committee be formed under Legislative Administration to develop a comprehensive plan for renovation of the capitol. The recommendation will be discussed in depth later in the report.
<b>144</b>	Build a new office building for legislative offices	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the previously mentioned Comprehensive Facilities

		Plan should include reference to any long-term construction plans for the capitol mall.
<b>146</b>	Improve cell phone coverage in the basement and other locations in the building	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the previously mentioned Comprehensive Facilities Plan should include reference to improving communication systems in the capitol.
<b>033</b>	Facilities evaluation	The <u>commission recommended</u> that Legislative Administration spend funds within their existing budget to update the renovation plan for the wing and, upon legislative approval, move forward with the project. The recommendation will be discussed in depth later in the report.
<b>012</b>	Safety of electrical and water systems	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in renovation plans for the capitol.
<b>013</b>	Preventative maintenance on the capitol	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal since the concept is inherent in renovation plans for the capitol.
<b>SECURITY</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>026</b>	Security of the capitol	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Administration work with the Legislative Assembly on improving security for capitol employees and the public but balance security with public access to the building and legislative process. The recommendation will be discussed in depth later in the report.
<b>MISCELLANEOUS - NO FURTHER ACTION</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>044</b>	Electronic voting in the Senate	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal citing that for the 2007 session, the Senate vote board will list votes and member names. At some point in the future, the Senate may also install vote buttons at members' desks.
<b>134</b>	Review of the use and necessity of House and Senate Lounges	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal citing that legislators use the House and Senate Lounges for meals and camaraderie. The lounges are due for remodeling though.
<b>136</b>	Ensure that a wheelchair is available for people with acute health problems	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal citing that a wheelchair is available, and procedures are in place for responders to access the chair.
<b>120</b>	Require people to state their name each time they speak on the record	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal citing that chairs should be trained and reminded to direct committee discussion and acknowledge speakers on the record.

# MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Management and Human Resources Committee, originally two committees, studied in depth the staffing structure of the legislative branch, legislator compensation, and legislative auditing and performance evaluation. Staffing is a unique and complex challenge in that the workload currently rises and falls between session and interim. Committee members determined that compensating legislators is also a unique challenge because legislators typically have a full-time, year-round workload but are in session on a part-time basis. As for program evaluation, constitutional limitations prevent the Legislative Assembly from performing financial audits, however the committee acknowledged a need for legislative oversight and performance evaluation related to their budget decisions.

## PROGRAM EVALUATION

The Oregon Constitution states that the Secretary of State is the auditor of public accounts, and committee members acknowledged that role is not easy to define. As the Legislative Assembly moves toward performance based budgeting, there is greater call for an enhanced program evaluation function in the legislative branch.

The committee had extensive discussions about the authority and ability of the Legislative Assembly to conduct audits with staff from Legislative Counsel and Legislative Fiscal staff and the Director of the Audits Division of the Secretary of State. Instead of redefining the role of the Secretary of State in the auditing process, the committee ultimately recommended restructuring the existing Joint Legislative Audit Committee within the Legislative Fiscal Office.

A new Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability will have the authority to conduct in-depth policy analysis and program evaluations and reviews, using commonly accepted professional standards, of state agencies, programs and all other state-funded programs.

## STAFFING

It takes many dedicated staff to facilitate the legislative process. A pressing question for the committee was whether or not legislative offices have enough staff to do the job. Committee members met multiple times with staff from the Legislative Counsel, Legislative Fiscal, Legislative Revenue, and Legislative Administration Offices to talk about how staff are hired, personnel rules and the possible effect of annual sessions on staffing needs. Members also heard about the role and staffing for the President and Speaker's offices, caucus offices, the Secretary of the Senate and Chief Clerk of the House. After hearing committee and commission discussions about the nature of session and interim and workload of members, the committee determined that legislators should have at least one full-time, year-round staff person to assist them.

Committee members agreed that legislative offices are understaffed. The committee heard that if the Legislative Assembly transitions to annual sessions, then legislative offices will certainly need more staff on a continuing year-round basis, rather than temporary session-length hires. It is hard to determine how many additional staff each office needs to perform their assigned duties, therefore committee recommended that each legislative office should make that determination on their own and submit their request during session for appropriate funding levels.

The committee also heard there is a need for consistency in staffing of policy committees. Continuity of staff and members on substantive policy committees may breed better policy decisions as continuity will increase knowledge and experience in issue areas.

**LEGISLATOR COMPENSATION**

People elected to public offices often times make some sort of sacrifice to serve and it can be challenging to attract a group of citizens with diverse backgrounds and experiences to represent Oregonians in the legislature. The committee indicated that legislative service should not be perceived as a career and that salary and compensation should not be the reason a person might run for office. However, an increase in total compensation may help create an environment that attracts more citizens to serve.

Committee members recommended reviving the existing Public Officials Compensation Commission with the purpose of establishing salaries for the state’s elected officials and to remove political consideration from the process. With specific regard to legislators, the Compensation Commission should take into account the impacts of all other possible forms of legislator compensation including but not limited to: per diem payments during session and interim, mileage payments during session and interim, and hiring of family members as personal staff. To acknowledge the vast geography of the state, the commission should develop a geographic differential in salary after reviewing the impact on legislators who must maintain at least two residences in order to participate in the legislative process.

**The Management and Human Resources Committee considered the following proposals.**

<b>PROGRAM EVALUATION</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>043</b>	Establish a Legislative Audit Office	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the legislature replace the Joint Legislative Audit Committee with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability in the Legislative Fiscal Office.
<b>STAFFING</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>004</b>	Legislator staffing	The <u>commission recommended</u> that legislators be budgeted so that they have at least one full-time, year-round legislative assistant.
<b>009</b>	Review staffing and staff resources – Primarily Legislative Fiscal Office, Legislative Revenue Office and Legislative Counsel	The <u>commission recommended</u> that additional staff are needed in the Legislative Fiscal, Legislative Revenue and Legislative Counsel Offices and that the directors of each office submit policy option packages to the legislature requesting more staff.
<b>052</b>	Explore performance evaluation and feedback for legislative agency heads	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after conversations about professionalization staff.
<b>022</b>	Personnel regulations	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after conversations about professionalization staff.
<b>058</b>	Establish a “superchief” giving more administrative duties to the Legislative Administrator	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal.
<b>024</b>	Role and function of caucuses, caucus offices and staff	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after discussions about staffing committees.
<b>029</b>	Non-partisan staff and the ability to provide unbiased information needed to make informed decisions	The <u>commission recommended</u> that policy/research staff be separated from committee staff in order to build professionalism, provide continuity and stability, and remove partisan and political influence from issue area staffing and acknowledge the relationship chairs have with committee staff.

<b>050</b>	Assessment of Committee Services Office by NCSL	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal, but considered the content of the NCSL report as recommendations were made about committee staff.
<b>042</b>	Legislative policy and issue area research function	The <u>commission recommended</u> that policy/research staff be separated from committee staff in order to build professionalism, provide continuity and stability, and remove partisan and political influence from issue area staffing and acknowledge the relationship chairs have with committee staff.
<b>060</b>	Role of committee staff in the committee process	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal, but comments were taken into account as recommendations were made about committee staff.
<b>062</b>	Shift management of Committee Staff by the Chief Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate	The <u>commission recommended</u> that policy/research staff be separated from committee staff in order to build professionalism, provide continuity and stability, and remove partisan and political influence from issue area staffing and acknowledge the relationship chairs have with committee staff.
<b>063</b>	Committee Services as an independent statutory office similar to LFO, LRO and LC	The <u>commission recommended</u> that policy/research staff be separated from committee staff in order to build professionalism, provide continuity and stability, and remove partisan and political influence from issue area staffing and acknowledge the relationship chairs have with committee staff.
<b>LEGISLATOR COMPENSATION</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>007</b>	Legislator compensation	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the existing Public Officials Compensation Commission be revived and that the commission set salaries for legislators and other elected officials.
<b>MISCELLANEOUS - NO FURTHER ACTION</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>036</b>	Review the legislative branch budgeting process	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal with the understanding that new staff in the Legislative Fiscal Office will be looking at options for budgeting in the legislative branch.
<b>038</b>	Remove Commission on Indian Services from the Legislative Branch	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after hearing that there was no interest in removing the commission from the Legislative Branch.
<b>049</b>	Legislative records retention	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after discussing records retention and agreeing that Legislative Counsel should work with office directors to refine a records retention policy.
<b>051</b>	Access to the state “datamart” at DAS	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after hearing that legislators have access to the “datamart” through the Legislative Fiscal Office.
<b>070</b>	Committee chair meetings with caucus leaders and/or presiding officers	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal indicating that the issue might be best addressed during member and chair training.
<b>145</b>	Review per diem payments for	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal

	citizens on task forces, boards and commissions	after acknowledging that citizen per diem has not changed in decades but the issue is out of the commission scope.
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## **PROCESS COMMITTEE**

The Process Committee took responsibility for major discussions on structure of the legislative process and on reforming, at a fundamental level, the influence of money and politics on the legislature. Although specific proposals were assigned to the committee, members had more thorough discussions on broad topics addressed in the proposals. Consequently, the committee forwarded comprehensive recommendations to the commission for consideration rather than responses to proposals. Details of committee recommendations were outlined earlier in this report. What follows is a brief review of committee discussion about significant recommendations.

### **OPEN PRIMARY**

The committee spoke with proponents and opponents of an open primary initiative that was proposed, but did not qualify, for the 2006 General Election. Data from the Secretary of State, Elections Division show that about 22% of registered voters are Independent. Committee members stated that an open primary election, as recommended by the commission, will allow disenfranchised voters to participate more broadly in the selection of candidates running for legislative office.

### **NONPARTISAN LEGISLATURE**

During the 2005 legislative session, the Senate approved a minority report to Senate Bill 161 which would have designated the offices of Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, state Senator and state Representative as nonpartisan. The committee discussed the concept of a nonpartisan legislature as a way to reduce partisan rancor in the legislative process. The committee decided that each legislative house should have the opportunity to decide whether or not members will be elected on a nonpartisan basis.

### **NONPARTISAN CONTROLLER**

Committee members stated that partisanship should not play a role in the conduct of elections, compliance with campaign regulations, investigation of government ethics laws, or in the initial preparation of redistricting plans. Therefore, it was recommended that a new executive position, State Controller, be established to take on those roles, primarily from the Secretary of State.

### **INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM**

Citizens use the Initiative and Referendum process to allow voters to consider policy options that the legislature won't consider or doesn't act on satisfactorily. Committee members discussed the perceived negative impact of the initiative on the legislative process, but acknowledged that Oregonians will never relinquish their authority to initiate measures. The committee made recommendations that may allow voters to be more aware of the genesis and backing of initiatives and allow the legislature to review and possibly present alternative policy alternatives to initiated measures.

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

Committee members suggested that the cost of campaigns and legislators' reliance on special interest money significantly contribute to increasing partisanship in the legislative process. Issues related to campaign finance reform are deep, broad and attract many interested parties to the discussion; therefore the committee recommended that the legislature appoint a commission to examine the role of campaign finance in legislative decision-making. In order to remove a conflict in legislator compensation, the committee also recommended that as improvements are made to legislator compensation, legislators should be prohibited from using campaign contributions for personal use.

### **SESSION FREQUENCY, LENGTH AND TIMING**

For at least the past three decades there has been a constant call for Oregon to transition to annual legislative sessions. The committee studied the concept in depth by conferring with many legislative staff about how annual sessions could be structured to accommodate the existing budget process, use interim committees to prepare for shorter sessions, use session time more efficiently, and accommodate the bill and amendment drafting and introduction process. The committee ultimately recommended that the Legislative Assembly use their existing authority to experiment with annual sessions before asking the voters for a constitutional amendment to establish annual sessions.

### **COMMITTEES AND BILLS**

Central to the legislative process are bills considered by committees. After discussing the committee process and bill drafting with former legislators and Legislative Counsel staff, the committee emphasized a need for the legislature to establish deadlines and time limits during session for requests, drafting and introduction of measures and subsequent consideration by committees. With regard to legislative committees, members focused on the need for thoughtful, balanced and efficient deliberation of bills during session and recommended the need for continuity of members on committee and more meaningful representation from minority party members.

# **PUBLIC INSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

This commission was formed, in part, to find ways to improve the public perception of the legislature. The Public Institution Committee was charged with the responsibility of reviewing issues including public relations, ethics and the relationship between branches of government.

## **PUBLIC ACCESS**

Oregon's legislative process includes many opportunities for the public to comment on legislation being considered including meetings with individual legislators, testimony in committee or sending letters to members. It is critical that the public know when bills will be heard and whether amendments will be considered so they can plan to participate and know what they'll be speaking to. Some people can't get to Salem to testify because of distance or hearings held during work hours, so committees are starting to hold more field hearings in different parts of the state, provide teleconference or videoconference ability, or hold hearings later into the evening.

The legislative website is also a good tool the public uses to learn about legislative activities. The Internet and email have increased the speed of communication with the public, but technology is useful only when the public accesses the information in a timely manner.

The legislature should continue to keep the process open to the public, but strive to make it more accessible by providing more timely notice of meetings, more accurate notice of issues to be discussed, and more accessible geographically.

## **TRAINING**

When the legislature meets every two years, many new members and staff cycle into the process. It is important for people to understand the legislative process, how to make it work, and the issues that will be discussed during session. Training opportunities are organized and made available to new and returning legislators and staff by each chamber and caucus. Legislative Administration also provides general overview training for all building staff and members.

Although training has generally been successful, comments throughout the work of this commission indicate that chairs and legislators need more training on issues that will be discussed during session. Trainers and those being trained can give the best input about how to improve all training opportunities and should do so.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS**

State government works in partnership with city and county governments, special districts and other elected bodies. Delivery of services to citizens is interconnected between all governments and the complex systems and relationships can be challenging to understand. As partners in delivery, local governments want to be more involved in the decision making process on the front-end to provide as much information to legislators about their ability to deliver services and cost of delivery. The committee decided that House and Senate committees, or a Joint committee established to consider intergovernmental affairs might help increase legislative awareness about interconnected government systems.

## **ETHICS**

The committee acknowledged that the Government Ethics Work Group of the Oregon Law Commission has the task of completing a comprehensive review of government ethics laws that cover all state and local government elected and unelected officials, employees, officers and volunteers. However, three

ethics issues were addressed by the committee. First, that there is a conflict in the legislature setting the budget for the Government Standards and Practices Commission which oversees ethics complaints for the legislature, other public officials and the lobby. Therefore, the legislature should identify, develop and implement a dedicated and stable source of funding which is not dependent on legislative approval. Second, legislators’ practice of hiring family members as staff can be perceived as if it is a benefit for the family member. The committee recommended the need for oversight of setting salaries for family members. Third, the committee recommended that legislators and staff be prohibited from being intoxicated while performing official legislative duties.

**INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES**

The committee was assigned a number of proposals that highlight the negative public perception of the legislature or the lack of collegial relationships among legislators. Although it is easy to say that members should be nice to one another and work out their differences, a substantive recommendation to improve relationships can’t be made. The Legislative Assembly must determine how and when to improve themselves.

**The Public Institution Committee considered the following proposals.**

<b>PUBLIC ACCESS</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>006</b>	Improving public access including issues such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting notice</li> <li>• Meeting times and locations</li> <li>• Public access to a variety of information about legislative activities</li> </ul>	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly continue to make the legislative process accessible to the public and outlined a number of steps that, if implemented, will keep it open.
<b>065</b>	Public notice for committee meetings and work sessions	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly continue to make the legislative process accessible to the public and outlined a number of steps that, if implemented, will keep it open.
<b>066</b>	Availability of amendments	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly continue to make the legislative process accessible to the public and outlined a number of steps that, if implemented, will keep it open.
<b>071</b>	Legislative website	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly continue to make the legislative process accessible to the public and outlined a number of steps that, if implemented, will keep it open.
<b>129</b>	Use of videoconferences	The <u>commission recommended</u> that the Legislative Assembly continue to make the legislative process accessible to the public and outlined a number of steps that, if implemented, will keep it open.
	Readability of Oregon Revised Statutes and legislation	The <u>commission recommended</u> that bills, amendments and statutes be drafted in language that is easy to read and follows in a logical order.
<b>010</b>	In-district office	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Legislators must be able to choose how they use funds allocated for office expenses.

<b>061</b>	Open caucus meetings	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal after discussing Open Meetings law and human nature of wanting some discussions to remain private.
<b>067</b>	Electronic distribution of paperwork	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. The legislature distributes as much paperwork as possible electronically, and as technology and systems change, so will methods of distribution.
<b>TRAINING</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>011</b>	Training for legislative assistants and caucus staff	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members acknowledged that training is going well, but that training should be reviewed and improved by those doing the training and taking the training.
<b>015</b>	Training for legislators	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members acknowledged that training is going well, but that training should be reviewed and improved by those doing the training and taking the training.
<b>064</b>	Training for lobbyists and agency staff	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members acknowledged that training is going well, but that training should be reviewed and improved by those doing the training and taking the training.
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>116</b>	Establish a Governance Council including members from local governments and the legislature	The <u>commission recommended</u> that House and Senate committees or a joint committee on Intergovernmental Affairs be established next session.
<b>115</b>	One-size-fits-all solutions for a diverse state	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members indicated that diverse interest groups and local governments need to communicate more with legislators about the specific impacts of proposed legislation on their communities.
<b>034</b>	Relationship between the legislature and executive branch	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members suggested that better or more organized communication can't be legislated.
<b>ETHICS</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>005</b>	Ethical standards for legislators	The <u>commission recommended</u> that due to a perceived conflict of interest, the legislature should not establish the funding level for the Government Standards and Practices Commission.
<b>078</b>	Prohibiting intoxication while performing legislative duties	The <u>commission recommended</u> that House and Senate rules be developed that prohibit members and staff from being intoxicated while performing official legislative duties.
	Nepotism	The <u>commission recommended</u> that House and Senate Rules be developed requiring members to submit a statement to the Chief Clerk of the House or Secretary of the Senate indicating that they've hired a family member and that the family member's salary be acknowledged to fall within a stated range.

<b>“THE INSTITUTION”</b>		
<b>Number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Commission Response</b>
<b>001</b>	Collegial member relationships	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members acknowledged that collegial relationships are important to the legislative process, but they can't be legislated.
<b>017</b>	Preservation of citizen legislature	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members suggested that discussion on this topic is inherent in all commission work.
<b>018</b>	Professional legislature	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members suggested that discussion on this topic is inherent in all commission work.
<b>023</b>	“The Institution”	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members suggested that discussion on this topic is inherent in all commission work.
<b>035</b>	Review public relations of the legislature	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. There has been a decline in media coverage of legislative activities in recent years, but the commission did not make a specific recommendation on whether or not that should be addressed.
<b>092</b>	No closed door sessions in the budget process	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members acknowledged the need for an open legislative process, but noted that some discussions between members will continue to happen behind closed doors.
<b>104</b>	Legislators being accountable to constituents	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Voters have the opportunity every two or four years to select legislators who they feel will best represent their interests.
<b>106</b>	Increasing the power of citizen advocates	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. The commission heard that the public has access to the legislative process and recommended more ways to make it more accessible.
<b>135</b>	Establish a Public Lobbyist Corps	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. The public has access to the legislative process and may organize their interaction with the legislature in whatever way they choose to.
<b>047</b>	Integrity between members	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members determined that this proposal can't be legislated.
<b>072</b>	Dress code or uniforms for members and staff	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. House rules establish a dress code but this is also a proposal that can't be legislated.
<b>073</b>	Keeping members on the floor during session	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members heard that legislators may leave floor discussion to do business in the lobby, but ultimately the presiding officer must maintain the quorum and decorum.
<b>076</b>	Shift legislative focus to important issues, not minor ones	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Legislators and leadership determine the focus of each session.

<b>039</b>	Review legislative publications	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members heard no complaints about legislative publications in general.
<b>053</b>	Limit notes to members on the floor	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members heard that legislators have the option to accept notes or not and that notes help legislators conduct business.
<b>054</b>	Limit press access to members on the floor	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Members acknowledged that the proposal might be counter productive to improving the image of the legislature.
<b>057</b>	Eliminate Senate confirmation of Executive Appointments	The commission took <u>no further action</u> on the proposal. Commission members did not venture into removing this authority from the Senate.