

HB 2232 -- GOVERNOR APPOINTED MEMBERS

SPONSOR: McNeil

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Government Oversight and Accountability by a vote of 6 to 0.

This bill requires the Office of the Governor to maintain and regularly update a list of the name, city or county of residence, and expiration date for his or her term for each member of a state board, commission, committee, and council with a Governor-appointed member. Beginning May 31, 2018, specified information regarding any vacancies and current appointees must be displayed on the Governor's website.

The list and the required information must be a public record under the Open Meetings and Records Law, commonly known as the Sunshine Law; however, the Office of the Governor or the Office of Administration must be exempt from any fines or monetary damages under the provisions of that law. Any required production of the list or disputes about its redaction must be enforced only by injunctive relief.

The Office of the Governor may delegate responsibility for the maintenance of the list and website to the Office of Administration.

These provisions cannot prohibit an individual from completing his or her term of office as a member of a state board, commission, committee, council, or other organization or create any private right of action except for the authorized injunctive relief.

This bill is similar to HB 663 (2015).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help the general public identify vacancies and opportunities to serve on boards and commissions and also ensure that there is transparency about important entities which make decisions that impact on public policy.

Testifying for the bill was Representative McNeil.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.