

HOUSE BILL No. 2337

AN ACT creating the Kansas advisory council on intergovernmental relations; prescribing the powers and duties thereof.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) There is hereby created a Kansas advisory council on intergovernmental relations. The council shall be composed of 15 members of whom 11 shall be appointed by the governor as follows: (1) Two members shall be elected county officials of which, one shall be a member of a board of county commissioners; (2) two members shall be elected city officials; (3) one member shall be an elected township official; (4) one member shall be an elected school board member; (5) two members shall be executive branch officials; and (6) three members shall be private citizens. Two members of the council shall be members of the Kansas senate of which, one shall be appointed by the president of the senate and one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate. Two members of the council shall be members of the Kansas house of representatives of which, one shall be appointed by the speaker of the house and one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house.

City, county and school board members shall be appointed from lists of at least five nominees submitted by their respective state organizations. Of the members appointed by the governor, no more than seven members shall be from any one political party.

(b) Of the first members appointed by the governor after the effective date of this act, one member of each city and county, the township and school board member, one executive branch member and one private citizen shall hold office for terms of two years beginning July 1, 2002; thereafter all appointments shall be for terms of four years. The remaining members appointed by the governor shall be for terms of four years beginning July 1, 2002. Legislative members shall be appointed to terms which correspond to their terms of office. All members may be reappointed. Should any member cease to be a member of the unit, body or agency such person is appointed to represent, such person's membership on the council shall terminate immediately and a new member shall be appointed in the same manner as the predecessor to fill the unexpired term.

(c) Members shall serve without salary but may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(d) The council shall each year elect from its membership a chairperson and a vice-chairperson, who shall serve in such capacities for one year and until their successors have been elected. If both the chairperson and vice-chairperson are absent from any meeting, the voting members present shall elect a temporary chairperson by a majority vote.

(e) Eight members of the council shall constitute a quorum. Meetings and subcommittee meetings of the council shall be subject to the open meetings law.

Sec. 2. (a) It shall be the duty of the council to engage in continuous study of the services provided by the various types and levels of government within the state, the division of responsibility for providing and financing governmental services, possibilities of improving the organizational structure and operational efficiency of the various governmental units serving the citizens of the state; and the state and local tax structure and the revenue requirements and fiscal policies of the state and its local units of government. The council shall give particular attention to modernization of the structure of Kansas local government, the impact of urbanization on the organization and functions of local government, the impact of technology on the organization and functions of local government and the relationships between state and local governments.

(b) The council shall determine the manner in which the existing laws of the state relating to the subjects of its study may be simplified, modified, rearranged, consolidated and revised to insure greater effectiveness in the governmental practices of this state. The council shall make an annual report in writing to the governor and legislature. Such report shall be transmitted to the legislative coordinating council on or before December 1, for inclusion, as the coordinating council may determine, in its annual report. All recommendations requiring statutory changes shall be in legislative bill form. Recommendations requiring constitutional changes shall contain the language of the proposed amendments and laws

to implement the recommendations. All such bills and proposed constitutional amendments shall have received approval as to form by the revisor of statutes prior to transmission thereof to the legislative coordinating council.

Sec. 3. Each officer, board, commission or department of state government or local unit of government, shall make available to the council all facts, records, information and data requested by council and in all ways cooperate with the council in carrying out its duties imposed by this act.

Sec. 4. The council shall meet as often as may be necessary to perform its duties and shall meet in each congressional district of the state at least once in each biennium.

Sec. 5. The council may accept moneys from grants, gifts, bequests, contributions or other donations.

Sec. 6. The council is hereby authorized to engage legal counsel and expert advisors on the subject of taxation or governmental organization and procedures as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the council. Compensation for such counsel and advisors shall be determined by the council within the limits of available funds.

Sec. 7. Any member of the legislature, appointed state official or elected public official shall have the right to attend any meeting of the council; and may present such official's views on any subject which the council may be considering. Such official shall not have the right to participate in any decision which the council may make unless such official is a member of the council.

Sec. 8. The council may adopt such rules of procedure, consistent with this act, as may be necessary to carry out the powers, duties and functions of the council.

Sec. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and passed that body

HOUSE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE
as amended _____

SENATE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.