



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Committee Bill No. 6249

LCO No. 5225

05225HB06249GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) There is created a
2 Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee which shall be a
3 permanent standing committee of the General Assembly, consisting of
4 twelve members as follows: The chairpersons and ranking members of
5 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
6 cognizance of matters relating to public safety, judiciary and
7 government administration. Members shall serve for a term of two
8 years from the beginning of each regular session of the General
9 Assembly in the odd-numbered year. The terms of all members
10 appointed to the committee shall end with the termination of each
11 member's term or holding of office, whichever occurs first. Vacancies
12 shall be filled by any person who succeeds any such chairperson or
13 ranking member. The committee shall select cochairpersons and such
14 other officers as it may deem necessary from among its membership. A
15 majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum and all actions
16 of the committee shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the

17 full committee membership.

18 (b) The Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee shall meet as
19 often as may be necessary, during legislative sessions and the periods
20 between sessions, to perform its duties and functions.

21 (c) The Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee shall: (1) Direct
22 its staff and other legislative staff available to the committee to conduct
23 reviews of any documents or procedures of the Department of
24 Emergency Management and Homeland Security, including, but not
25 limited to, any coordination between such department and federal
26 agencies, that are exempt from disclosure pursuant to chapter 15 of the
27 general statutes, in order to assist the General Assembly in the proper
28 discharge of its duties; (2) establish policies and procedures regarding
29 the printing, reproduction and distribution of any report produced by
30 such committee; (3) review staff reports submitted to the committee
31 and, when necessary, confer with representatives of the Department of
32 Emergency Management and Homeland Security in order to obtain
33 full and complete information in regard to programs, other activities
34 and operations of such department, and may request and shall be
35 given access to and copies of, by all public officers, departments,
36 agencies and authorities of the state and its political subdivisions, such
37 public records, data and other information and given such assistance
38 as the committee determines it needs to fulfill its duties. Any statutory
39 requirements of confidentiality regarding such records, data and other
40 information, including penalties for violating such requirements, shall
41 apply to the committee, its staff and its other authorized
42 representatives in the same manner and to the same extent as such
43 requirements and penalties apply to any public officer, department,
44 agency or authority of the state or its political subdivisions. The
45 committee shall act on staff reports and recommend in a report under
46 subsection (f) of this section, or propose, in the form of a raised bill,
47 such legislation as may be necessary to modify current operations and
48 practices of the Department of Emergency Management and
49 Homeland Security; (4) consider and act on requests by legislators,

50 legislative committees, elected officials of state government and state
51 department and agency heads for reviews of such documents and
52 procedures of the department. Any such request shall be submitted, in
53 writing, to the Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee and shall
54 state reasons to support the request. The decision of the committee to
55 grant or deny such a request shall be final; (5) conduct investigations
56 requested by joint resolution of the General Assembly, or, when the
57 General Assembly is not in session, (A) (i) requested by a joint
58 standing committee of the General Assembly or initiated by a majority
59 vote of the Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee, and (ii)
60 approved by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, or (B)
61 requested by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management. In the
62 event two or more investigations are requested or initiated, the order
63 of priority shall be determined by the Legislative Intelligence
64 Oversight Committee; (6) retain, within available appropriations, the
65 services of consultants, technical assistants and research and other
66 personnel necessary to assist in the conduct of such reviews and
67 investigations; and (7) originate, and report to the General Assembly,
68 any bill it deems necessary concerning a matter under review or
69 investigation by the committee, in the same manner as is prescribed by
70 rule for joint standing committees of the General Assembly.

71 (d) The identity of a public employee providing information to the
72 committee shall not be disclosed. In the course of an investigation, all
73 information, records of interviews, reports, statements, notes,
74 memoranda or other data in the custody of or obtained or prepared by
75 the Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee or its staff shall not
76 be subject to the provisions of section 1-210 of the general statutes until
77 the investigation is completed.

78 (e) The Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee shall report
79 the results of each investigation together with its recommendations for
80 any further action to the General Assembly.

81 (f) The Legislative Intelligence Oversight Committee shall report

82 annually to the General Assembly on or before February fifteenth and
83 may, from time to time, make additional reports.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2007	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish an oversight committee that will protect against abuse of investigative powers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.; REP. O'BRIEN, 24th Dist.
REP. TERCYAK, 26th Dist.

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