

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-178

AN ACT DECREASING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION ON
Title: EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY.

Vote Date: 3/9/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/26/2018

File No.: 31

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill proposes adjusting the CEO statute (Chapter 23h, section 2-127) to decrease the agency's board composition from 63 board members to 39 members, which will improve responsiveness, cohesiveness and overall effectiveness.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Werner Oyanadel, Senior Commission Analyst for the Commission on Equity and Opportunity: Mr. Werner stated the commission's focus is to recommend legislation that aims at eliminating disparities by creating opportunities, building connections and promoting social change. Managing a 63 board membership with different complex socio-economic, cultural and linguistic issues dilutes the board's deliberation and decision-making effectiveness. The optimal number of board members depends on how many stakeholders are involved in the appointment process, the scope of the commission's work and the need to represent various interests as part of the deliberative process. Current appointments should be exempt from SB 178 and be allowed to serve until the expiration of their appointment to avoid conflicts and maintain continuity. Commission members are not compensated for their services, except for travel expenses. Limiting commission membership will help decrease monetary costs associated with appointments.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Maureen O'Reilly

Date: April 3, 2018