

Ideas for Legislative Council for Strategic Planning 2011- 2012

August 2011

These ideas have been generated in the first meetings of the 2011-2012 Legislative Council. At the Strategic Planning Session, after a general opening session, the Council members and Legislative Services Division staff will divide into subcommittees to consider these ideas.

1. Legislative process

- HB 13 (pay plan): concern over inclusion of other related changes within the bill that contains the pay plan.
- posting standing committee votes and business processes
- session caucus costs - postage, printing, special projects
- legislative calendar: committee deadlines, House Bill No. 2, Secretary of the Senate ideas
- bill drafting timing: want bills drafter earlier, information needs for bill drafts, legal review of constitutionality
- concerns shared with LFC: revenue estimating process and the annual medicaid estimate
- Legislative rules: update, simplification, training tools
- statutes regarding resignation and replacement of legislators

2. Interim Committee process

- Why is the interim the way it is?
- What do legislators want from the interim?
- How do you define success for interim committees?
- Legislative Council role and direction
- Are there changes to number or kind of committees, membership, statutory duties, interim study assignment processes?
- Rules and Guidelines for Interim Committees - committee authority and initiative

3. Legislative support

- direction for information technology: legislator needs (technology allowance, laptops, printing, work stations)
- audio and video: TVMT, minutes, streaming, archiving and preservation
- e-mail for legislators: technical and legal considerations, cost, security, privacy
- legislative printing and "paperless" legislature: bills, web and phone messages
- LAWS upgrade (2011 legislative proposal, HB 5 passed by legislature and line-itemed by Governor)
- leadership and committee on committee appointments to legislative, executive, and interstate committees: statutes, timing and date requirements, database, staff assistance, notice to appointees, identified areas to fix: civil office, Board of Research and Commercialization, Future Fisheries, NCSL/CSG

- Legislative Administration Committees or Joint Committee: past and potential

4. Legislative Staff

- succession planning
- statutory positions: Legislative Environmental Analyst, Code Commissioner
- role of Legislative Information Officer
- Administrative Manual and staff personnel policies on comp time, etc.
- permanent house or senate staff - what would their functions be? would they be partisan, political staff or nonpartisan staff?
- Legislative Security Officers - job description, ability to carry weapons, training and certification, who they would be hired by and report to

Future Agenda Item: Legislative Space

- SJ 3 and followup to last interim's study and report and recommendations
- monitor retrocommissioning appropriation for Capitol Building HVAC and basement lighting

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