

**Excerpt from Section 103 of
Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6444**

(10) (a) The task force for reform of executive and legislative procedures dealing with tax preferences is hereby established. The task force must:

(i) Review current executive and legislative budget and policy practices and procedures associated with the recommendation, development, and consideration of tax preferences, assess the effectiveness of budgeting requirements and practices, the general rigor of justifications and evaluations typically provided during legislative consideration of tax preferences, and the role and value of methodologies currently used to measure the public benefits and costs, including opportunity costs, of tax preferences, as defined in RCW 43.136.021.

(ii) Consider but not be limited to, the factors listed in RCW 43.136.055.

(b) The task force may make recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the review process conducted by the citizen commission on performance measurement of tax preferences process as described in chapter 43.136 RCW. The task force may also recommend changes or improvements in the manner in which both the executive branch and legislative branch of state government address tax preferences generally, including those in effect as well as those that may be hereafter proposed, in order to protect the public interest and assure transparency, fairness, and equity in the state tax code.

(c) The task force may recommend structural or procedural changes that it feels will enhance both executive and legislative procedures and ensure consistent and rigorous examination of such preferences.

(d) The task force must report its recommendations to the governor and legislative fiscal committees by November 15, 2010.

(e) The task force has eleven voting members as follows:

(i) One member is the state treasurer;

(ii) One member is the chair of the joint legislative audit and review committee;

(iii) One member is the director of financial management;

(iv) A member, four in all, of each of the two largest caucuses of the senate and the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives, appointed by the chair of each caucus; and

(v) An appointee who is not a legislator, four in all, of each of the two largest caucuses of the senate and the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives, appointed by the chair of each caucus.

(f) Persons appointed by the caucus chairs under (e)(v) of this subsection should be individuals who have a basic understanding of state tax policy, government operations, and public services.

(g) The task force must elect a chair from among its members. Decisions of the task force must be made using the sufficient consensus model. For the purposes of this subsection, "sufficient

consensus" means the point at which the substantial majority of the commission favors taking a particular action. The chair may determine when a vote must be taken. The task force must allow a minority report to be included with a decision of the task force if requested by a member of the task force.

(h) The joint legislative audit and review committee must provide clerical, technical, and management personnel to the task force to serve as the task force's staff. The staff of the legislative fiscal committees, legislative counsel, and the office of financial management must also provide technical assistance to the task force. The department of revenue must provide necessary support and information to the joint task force.

(i) The task force must meet at least once a quarter and may hold additional meetings at the call of the chair or by a majority vote of the members of the task force. The members of the task force must be compensated in accordance with RCW 43.03.220 and reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

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