BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 1461
Version: Introduced
Request Number: 6424
Author: Representative Echols
Date: 2/7/2017
Impact: Travel Reimbursement for Commission;
Agency Operating Expenses

Research Analysis

HB 1461 creates the Oklahoma Sunset Act and creates a Sunset Advisory Commission to review all agencies which are subject to the Oklahoma Sunset Act. The Commission is to conduct public hearings concerning the efficiency and effectiveness of the entity under review; examine the mission, goals and objectives of the entity; examine the activities of the entity in addition to those granted by statute; assessment of the authority of the entity relating to fees, inspection, enforcement and penalties; whether there are alternative methods of performing functions of the entity; duplicitous or overlapping duties with other entities; effectiveness of the entity in addressing complaints; assessment of the entity's rulemaking process and interaction with the public in the rulemaking process; the extent to which the entity has complied with state and federal laws regarding equal employment opportunities and purchasing guidelines; examine how the entity issues and enforces rules regarding conflicts of interest; examine how the entity complies with records management practices; the effect of federal intervention or loss of federal funds if the entity is abolished; the extent to which the purpose and effectiveness of reporting requirements imposed on the entity justifies the continuation of the requirement. The Commission will also examine the regulatory scheme of entities which provide occupational licensing. The Commission will make an annual report to the Governor and Legislature regarding its findings and make recommendations on consolidation, transfer or reorganization of programs within state agencies.

The measure repeals Title 74, Sections 3901 through 3921 which is the existing Oklahoma Sunset Law.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

The measure provides for travel expense reimbursement to Commission members, the exact cost of which will depend on meeting frequency and distances traveled by members. The measure also requires the employment of an Executive Director and additional staff, and authorizes the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission to employee a staff on agency matters, but neither specifies an exact number of personnel (other than the Executive Director) nor the amount of compensation those individuals are to receive. The measure does not address additional typical operating expenses, such as rent and supplies.

Prepared By: Nicole McPhetridge

Other Considerations

The Commission may identify cost savings in existing agencies or occupational licensing program, which then may accompany a recommendation to the Legislature.
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