

Meeting Minutes  
Governmental Procedures and Structure Committee  
Taxation and Budget Reform Commission  
37 Senate Office Building  
Tallahassee, Florida  
Tuesday, February 12, 2008  
8:30 a.m. – Noon

**Committee Members:** *Alan Levine, Chair; Mike Hogan; Julia Johnson; Carlos Lacasa; Patricia Levesque; Jacinta Mathis; Nancy Riley; Darryl Rouson; Greg Turbeville; Ken Wilkinson; Brian Yablonski*

**Commissioners Present:**

Alan Levine, Chair (by phone)  
Mike Hogan  
Julia Johnson  
Carlos Lacasa  
Patricia Levesque  
Jacinta Mathis (by phone)  
Nancy Riley  
Darryl Rouson  
Greg Turbeville

**Excused Absences:**

Ken Wilkinson  
Brian Yablonski

Acting Chair Greg Turbeville called the meeting to order. Staff called the roll at 8:53 a.m. and announced the presence of a quorum.

Chair Turbeville stated that CP 27, a resolution to change the timing and increase the frequency of the establishment of future Taxation and Budget Reform Commissions (TBRC) sponsored by Commission Mike Hogan, was first on the agenda and asked him to present his proposal.

Commissioner Hogan stated that in the public hearings across the state people thought the original 10 year TBRC intervals were best. As Chair of the Government Efficiency Task Force (GETF) which meets every four years, Commissioner Hogan expressed how difficult it was for members of the TBRC to participate fully in both and that it was therefore hard for the GETF to get a quorum for their meetings.

Commissioner Hogan referred members to the chart in their packets that showed the meeting dates for the TBRC and the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) for the next 60 years. Tom Cibula, TBRC General Counsel, explained that the chart was

designed to assist them with preventing the overlapping of future TBRC and CRC meeting dates. He recommended that the committee decide whether they wanted to meet every 10 or 20 years before deciding on a start date. Commissioner Hogan agreed and recommended beginning every 10 years and that they consider Amendment 5 which has the TBRC meeting next in 2018. He made the point that, if changed back, this would give future TBRCs the same amount of time as the last TBRC had to make decisions.

After comments by the sponsor, acting Chair Turbeville opened the floor for questions and debate. The Chair then showed Amendment 5 was adopted and amendments 1-4 and 6-7 were withdrawn.

Next, the committee took up the issue of whether the CRC should have jurisdiction over the same matters as the TBRC. Commissioner Johnson asked staff why the CRC's jurisdiction was expanded to include taxation and budget issues. Tom Cibula explained that the CRC lost jurisdiction when the TBRC was formed, but in 1996 the jurisdiction was given back. Commissioner Mathis told the committee that the TBRC was formed to address the state taxation and budget issues and was born out of recognition for the need for specific review, and the CRC jurisdiction covered a much broader base, including how certain tax issues could affect the state.

Chair Turbeville asked that staff make the language a bit tighter. Commissioner Hogan stated he would like to temporarily postpone the amendment and stated that he understood Commissioner Mathis' point, but did not think this would limit the CRC.

Brian Pitts, with Justice for Jesus, spoke about the purpose of the GETF. Chair Turbeville asked if there were any questions of the speaker. Commissioner Johnson asked on what merits he thought the task force should exist. Mr. Pitts stated it is merely a neutral advisory board to assist in the process every four years.

Commissioner Rouson stated that he thought the amendment had the support of the committee members. With this said, Commissioner Hogan withdrew his request to temporarily postpone and there was a unanimous vote to pass the amendment.

Chair Turbeville stated that CP 25 would be temporarily postponed because of the absence of the sponsor, Commissioner Sandy D'Alemberte.

The Chair then asked if there was discussion on potential committee measures. Commissioner Lacasa asked for the views of members on property tax; he was then asked to explain the measures being presented to the Finance and Taxation Committee. After Commissioner Lacasa explained the proposals there was a brief discussion on the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.