



**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
101<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
JOINT COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND LOBBYING REFORM  
MEETING MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 23, 2019 AT 10:00 AM  
JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER  
ROOM 16-503  
100 W. RANDOLPH ST.  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601**

**Members Present in Person:**

Greg Harris (Co-Chair)  
Elgie Sims (Co-Chair)  
Kelly Burke  
Cristina Castro  
Richard Cenar  
John Curran  
David Harris  
Dan McConchie  
Christine Radogno  
Ann Spillane  
Juliana Stratton  
Grant Werhli  
Patrick Windhorst

**Members Present via Telephone:**

Nathan Maddox  
Christine Radogno

**Members Absent:**

James Burns  
Diane Saltoun

Co-Chair Harris called the December 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Joint Commission on Ethics and Lobbying Reform to order.

Member Castro made a motion to allow members to participate via telephone. Member Stratton seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

**Opening Comments**

Each member then provided short opening statements regarding the work of the Joint Commission. Many members expressed their hopes for a serious, bi-partisan process, including collaboration and honest discussion with the public, stakeholders, government watchdogs, and national and professional organizations.

## **Rules**

Co-Chair Harris proposed the committee consider the Joint Commission adopt Roberts Rules, 11<sup>th</sup> edition, newly revised, to the extent it does not conflict with the Open Meetings Act or other Illinois Law or rule adopted by the Joint Commission, with the following changes:

- A. A 6-day notice requirement for Joint Commission meetings;
- B. A 5-minute limit on public comment, with the ability for the Joint Commission to extend time;
- C. Allow for the submission of written statements via an email address to be published on the Joint Commission's page on ilga.gov; and
- D. The final report must be approved by a majority of the Joint Commission's members, but any member may submit and have published a minority report if they choose.

Other members suggested a specified amount of time for members to review any draft report or proposal before voting on it, ensuring that all meetings would be recorded and open, and how witnesses would be called.

The Joint Commission agreed that the staffs of the 4 legislative caucuses would put together a written document of the proposed rules and circulate it to the members of the Joint Commission to be voted on at the next meeting.

## **Future Meetings**

Co-Chair Harris proposed the next meeting be held the week of January 13<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. Members agreed on Wednesday January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am for the next meeting. A regularly scheduled weekly meeting was proposed by Member Werhli; however, Member Stratton had concerns about availability due to the varied schedules of the members of the Joint Commission. The co-chairs stated that staffs would work to ensure scheduling during session to mitigate conflicts to the extent possible.

Co-Chair Harris proposed bringing in different advocacy and reform groups for the next meeting and having them present their views and lay a foundation for the Joint Commission. Sen. Curran suggested the group should also identify specific problems they can agree on, in order to work collaborative toward a solution. Co-Chair Harris added this to the other suggestion topics for future meetings with include the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, Inspectors General, the Office of the Attorney General, the Secretary of State's office, lobbying groups, and bar associations or other legal groups.

Members were encouraged to email Co-Chair Harris or Sims or their staffs if they have suggestions for topics and/or witnesses for future meetings.

## **Public Comments**

Representatives from Change Illinois and the Better Government Association expressed their organizations' willingness to provide insight and assistance to the Joint Commission.

## **Adjournment**

Member David Harris moved to adjourn the Joint Commission until January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 10:00, to be held in the Bilandic Building in Chicago. Member Castro seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.