

Commissioner's Comments
to
Proposed Amendments to

ARTICLE VII
Committees

Proposed Change: Remove ability of Executive Committee to make Policies

- I oppose this change
- Policies are intended to reflect best practices that can change from time to time, and that are necessary to adopt and/or change on short notice to accommodate business needs. Waiting for the full commission to meet is not realistic nor desirable in the interest of time.
- If there is concern that some policies function more like Rules, then that is a different issue and should be addressed by the Rules Committee as needed.

Proposed Change: Policies must be approved by Full Commission before becoming effective

- I oppose this change as indicated above

Proposed Change: Adding to Requirements of the Executive Committee

- **Provide notice of date, time, and link to all meetings**
 - No objection. It is already being done.
- **May not exclude commissioners from executive session**
 - I oppose this change.
 - By definition, an executive session is necessary when personnel matters are being discussed, when confidential information is being discussed, and other private matters as defined in rule or statute, and as approved by legal counsel. Only the decision makers who need to know should be involved in those sessions.
 - No actions are taken in executive session.
 - In the event the discussions in executive session result in action being taken, then such action is taken in the public session of the meeting and is included in the minutes of the meeting.
- **Must keep minutes of executive sessions**

- I oppose this change for the reasons of confidentiality referenced above.
- **All reports presented to Executive Committee must be posted on the IMLCC’s website before the meeting**
 - I oppose this change.
 - The website is open to the public. It is not advisable for the general public to have access to ALL reports available to the Executive Committee.
 - Reports may contain confidential information and/or working documents that contain information that cannot or should not be shared with the general public.
- **Regular Executive Committee meeting minutes must be posted on the IMLCC website**
 - No objection.

Proposed Change: Ex-officio members of committees shall not have a vote or make motions

- No objection.

Proposed Change: Additional Requirements for Committees

- **Committees cannot act without a vote of the full Commission**
 - I oppose this change.
 - Such a change would significantly alter the operations of the IMLCC. The current model calls for staff to conduct the business of the Compact on a day-to-day basis, under the guidance of the various committees appointed to monitor and provide general direction to staff in certain business areas; namely, Budget, Personnel, Communications, Rules, and Technology. This model requires that committees to be nimble and to be able to provide input quickly to staff so that the operations of the Compact can do its business efficiently and with a minimum of delay – and yet benefit from advice from commissioners.
 - The current committee system has an inherent wisdom to it that should not be modified; the cost of being wrong is too high, and the outstanding success of the IMLCC to date shows that it works.
 - Every single commissioner is a member of a committee. This ensures that every commissioner has the ability to be fully informed on at least one part of the IMLCC’s operations, and can regularly participate in determining the direction of those operations.

- This regular commissioner input and participation is accomplished without jeopardizing the efficient conduct of business by the staff.
 - Requiring all committee decisions to be approved by the full commission is completely unrealistic. We already have difficulty obtaining a quorum for full commission meetings even though it only meets twice a year, one of which is virtual.
 - The proposed change would require the full commission to meet at least once a quarter, and probably every other month.
 - Such an increase in meetings requires additional staff time and commissioner time, and threatens to significantly bog down the smooth ongoing operations of the business, without any benefit to the IMLCC – just more busy work.
- All decisions by committees are subject to review by the Executive Committee, which is composed of the Chairs of all committees in addition to the IMLCC Chair, Vice-Chair, and Immediate Past Chair, who together constitute approximately ten percent of all commissioners.
- The current system provides more than adequate checks and balances on the activities of the staff and the committees without unduly interfering with business operations or burdening the valuable time of commissioners.
- Plus, the Chair and Vice-Chair are up for election every year if the full membership is not satisfied with current performance.
- **Committees must have a quorum (majority) to adopt a report or take action**
 - I oppose this change.
 - Committees have a difficult time obtaining quorums now, especially during the summer months and when legislatures are in session.
 - Committee members have ample opportunity to provide input to the committee chair and/or the responsible staff member, if there are any issues to be discussed at a committee meeting which they are unable to attend. If such input has not been provided then it is acceptable to assume that they are comfortable with the committee to proceed with its business without them.
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- **Committees must provide notice of date, time, and link to all meetings**
 - No objection. It is already being done.
- **Committees may not exclude any commissioner from its regular meetings**
 - No objection. It is already being done.
- **Commissioners not on a committee may NOT be excluded from a committee's executive session**
 - I oppose this change for reasons of confidentiality already stated above.