

HB 1527 -- EQUAL PAY COMMISSION

SPONSOR: Newman

This bill requires, by January 1, 2015, the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to establish the Equal Pay Commission. The commission will consist of 15 members appointed by the department director from specified areas of business, experience, and expertise including two members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tem and two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker. The commission must make a full and complete study of:

- (1) The extent of wage disparities, in both the public and private sectors, between men and women, and between minorities and nonminorities;
- (2) The factors that cause or tend to cause the disparities;
- (3) The consequences of the disparities on the economy and affected families; and
- (4) The actions, including proposed legislation, that are likely to lead to the elimination and prevention of the disparities.

The commission must make a report to the department director, President Pro Tem of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Governor within 12 months after the members are appointed. The report must include the results of the study as well as recommendations, legislative and otherwise, for the elimination and prevention of the disparities.