

Legislative Law §24. Legislative bill drafting commission.

A legislative bill drafting commission is hereby created to consist of two commissioners, one of whom shall be the commissioner for administration and the other of whom shall be the commissioner for operations. Each such commissioner shall be appointed jointly by the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly. Such appointments shall be evidenced by the joint certificate of the appointing officers filed in the office of the secretary of state. Each such commissioner shall hold office until his successor is appointed in the same manner as hereinabove provided. The commissioners shall receive such compensation as may be provided within the amount of the appropriation made by law for the maintenance and operation of the commission. The commissioners and employees of the commission shall be considered as employees of the legislature for all purposes.

Legislative Law §25. Duties of the commission.

The commission shall:

1. Draft or aid in drafting or examine legislative bills and resolutions and amendments thereto, upon request of a member or committee of either house of the legislature;
2. Advise as to the constitutionality, consistency or effect of proposed legislation upon request of a member or committee of either house of the legislature;
3. Make researches and examinations as to any subject of proposed legislation upon request of either house or of a committee of either house of the legislature;
4. Expend monies made available to the commission by appropriation for the employment of personnel, including temporary services, and for expenses of maintenance and operation, including labor, materials, office supplies, communication equipment, furniture, alterations, repairs, furnishings, purchase of books, development and operation of systems in support of the legislature and traveling expenses, and for services and expenses related to the legislative printing for the legislature contract pursuant to section four of the New York State printing and public documents law, including with respect to such contract the printing of bills, additional copies of bills, the printing and binding of session laws and the classification of appropriations (black book), the senate and assembly journals and certain other miscellaneous documents and messages set forth in such section four; and for services and expenses incurred in the installation, rental, development, maintenance and operation of centralized data processing systems, programs and equipment for the creation of a data bank containing the official statutes of the state and miscellaneous information, including, but not limited to, the text of the rules and regulations of state agencies as filed with the secretary of state for use in the preparation and composition of bills; preparation and composition of calendars, journals, session laws and miscellaneous documents; the operation of a bill status retrieval system for the senate and assembly; and the development of a statutory and other miscellaneous information retrieval system for the legislature and other entities; and for services and expenses related to the contract for the printing, publication and distribution of the State of New York Legislative Digest pursuant to section five of the New York state printing and public documents law. Such funds shall be expended upon approval of the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly or their respective designees, notwithstanding and unrestricted by the provisions of any general or special law. ...