

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMPARISON IN SENATE AND HOUSE VERSIONS OF S. 22

Generally, both versions of the bill are quite similar in their approaches to legislative oversight. The major differences are listed below.

S. 22 (Senate Version)	S. 22 (House Version)	NOTES
Cleans up Section 1-30-10(B) through (H). Those subsections would: (1) require all departments to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Governor concerning recommendations of changes; (2) require governing authorities of departments and agencies to submit four-year restructuring plans; (3) amend the definition of “report” as that term is used in the “whistleblower statutes”; (4) provide that a report may be a written or an oral allegation or testimony made within 180 days of learning of the wrongdoing; and (5) require that each public body maintain a summary of employee protections provided in the “whistleblower statutes.”	Not addressed in House version	
Requires oversight studies and investigations to be conducted on all agencies within the committees’ jurisdictions every seven years.	Requires studies and investigations to be conducted every five years	
Does not allow for the deposing of witnesses	Allows for the deposing of witnesses	
Allows witnesses to claim any legal privileges recognized by the laws of this State in response to any questions from investigative committees.	Allows witnesses to object to any question that would be detrimental to the witnesses’ interests.	
Indicates that the chairman of the investigating committee shall follow as closely as possible the statutory laws and decisions of the courts of SC	Provides that the chairman shall follow as closely as possible the procedures and rules of evidence observed by the courts of SC but does not	

regarding legal privileges and provides that the ruling of the chair may not be reviewed by courts except in a separate proceeding for contempt of the General Assembly.	address whether or not the chair's ruling may be reviewed by the courts.	
Does not establish criminal penalties for contempt of the General Assembly	Provides for the way in which a person can be found guilty of criminal contempt and sets forth the punishment associated with that crime.	