

HB 314 -- EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY MAKING COMMISSION ACT

SPONSOR: Walker

This bill creates the "Evidence-Based Policy Making Commission Act" and establishes the "Evidence-Based Policy Making Commission."

The commission consists of 15 members, including three appointed by the Speaker of the House. The bill specifies the membership requirements, leadership choice, and vacancy filling procedures.

The duties of the commission are to conduct a comprehensive study of the data inventory, data infrastructure, database security, and statistical protocols related to state policy making and the agencies for maintaining that data. The results of the study shall be used to:

- (1) Determine the optimal arrangement for which administrative data on state programs and tax expenditures, survey data, and related statistical data series may be integrated and made available to facilitate program evaluation, continuous improvement policy-relevant research, and cost-benefit analyses by qualified researchers and institutions while weighing how integration might lead to the intentional or unintentional access, breach, or release of personally identifiable information or records;
- (2) Recommend how data infrastructure, database security, and statistical protocols should be modified to best fulfill the objectives of the bill; and
- (3) Recommend how best to incorporate outcome measurements, institutionalize randomized controlled trials, and rigorous impact analysis into program design.

Upon an affirmative vote by the commission, a detailed report of the findings and conclusions shall be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2020.

The bill specifically requires most state agencies to provide help and assistance and allows the commission to request assistance from any agency and to take testimony and receive evidence at its hearings.

This bill is the same as HB 2275 (2018).