

CHAPTER 54-16 EMERGENCY COMMISSION

54-16-00.1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Emergency" means either a calamity or an unforeseen happening subsequent to the time the appropriation was made and which was clearly not within the contemplation of the legislative assembly and the governor.
2. "State officer" means an elected or appointed officer, board, commission, director, or employee of the state having the authority to transfer or expend any money appropriated by the legislative assembly.

54-16-01. Emergency commission - Members - Organization - Quorum - Meetings.

The emergency commission consists of the governor, the majority leaders of the senate and house of representatives of the legislative assembly, the secretary of state, and the chairmen of the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees. If the chairman of an appropriations committee ceases to be a member of the legislative assembly, the vice chairman of that committee succeeds to that position on the commission. An appropriations committee vice chairman may serve in the place of the appropriations committee chairman as a member of the commission at the request of the appropriate appropriations committee chairman, if the appropriations committee chairman is unable to attend a commission meeting. If a majority leader ceases to be a member of the legislative assembly, the respective house's assistant majority leader succeeds to that position on the commission. A majority leader's assistant majority leader may serve as a member of the commission in the place of the majority leader at the request of the majority leader if that majority leader is serving on the commission in another capacity or is unable to attend a commission meeting. Four members of the commission constitute a quorum. The governor is the chairman and the secretary of state is the secretary of the commission. The commission shall meet at the call of the chairman.

54-16-02. Proceedings not valid unless entered in minutes.

The proceedings of the emergency commission are not valid unless entered in the commission's minutes.

54-16-03. Unlawful to expend more than appropriated - May secure approval from commission for use of other funds - Deficit void.

A state officer may not expend, or agree or contract to expend, any amount in excess of the sum appropriated for that expenditure, and may not expend an amount appropriated for any specific purpose or fund or for any other purpose without prior approval in the form of a transfer approval or expenditure authorization as provided in this chapter. The office of management and budget shall provide information to the emergency commission with respect to all emergency requests. Any debt or deficit created by a state officer in violation of this section is void.

54-16-03.1. Submission of petition to emergency commission.

When an emergency exists, a state officer may present to the emergency commission an itemized petition requesting approval to transfer money and spending authority between funds or line items pursuant to section 54-16-04; accept and expend federal funds pursuant to section 54-16-04.1; accept and expend state contingency funds pursuant to section 54-16-09; accept and expend other funds pursuant to section 54-16-04.2; or recommend full-time equivalent positions pursuant to section 54-16-04.3. Any petition to the emergency commission by a state officer must be approved or recommended by the emergency commission prior to submission for consideration by the budget section.