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This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

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**Act No. 44 (H.1). An act relating to accepting and referring complaints by the State Ethics Commission**

**Subjects: Executive; governmental ethics; State Ethics Commission; procedure for accepting and referring ethics complaints**

This act amends statutes related to the State Ethics Commission. The act amends the requirement that the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches consult with the State Ethics Commission after the Commission refers a complaint to a respective branch. Instead of the previously required consultation after referral, the act requires the Commission at the time of referral of the complaint to specify any application of the State Code of Ethics to the alleged complaint and provide a recommended action. The act clarifies that the advice the Commission provided to a referred entity is confidential and nonbinding on the receiving entity. In addition, the act delays until September 1, 2027 the effective date of the Commission's enforcement authority, at which time the Commission may have the staff and funding to fully implement enforcement.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on June 5, 2025