

SB 207 gives the Oregon Government Ethics Commission's lawyers, whom are the Attorney General, the authority to initiate complaints, with the commission's approval against elected officials who might have violated executive session laws. It turns the Commission into a police agency instead of a complaint driven agency. Worse, the Legislative Assembly is exempted. It is hypocrisy. Just as the Attorney General's self-investigation into OLCC and legislative corruption. Do as I say not as I do. The legislature ignores Masons Rules daily including open deliberations i.e. executive sessions. The Senate Rules including open deliberations are violated daily. The Senate violates Or Const Art IV Section 14 requiring open deliberations daily along with other constitutional clauses. Yet, the Oregon State Senate voted to use the Attorney General and Ethics Commission to root out elected city, county and district public officials. It is hypocrisy and a legal double standard. If the Legislative Assembly wants ethical standards it needs to police itself before policing local government. SB 207 should either die in the House, or be amended to include the Legislative Assembly which is likely unconstitutional. Since the Legislature does not appear capable of leading by example, then SB 207 should die in the House. We can maybe be hopeful future elections will restore ethical standards to the legislative process at all levels. Votes need to hold public officials accountable.