

(5) A PERSON MAY BE HELD IN CONTEMPT IF THE PERSON UNJUSTIFIABLY:

(I) FAILS OR REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA FOR APPEARANCE;

(II) APPEARS BUT FAILS OR REFUSES TO TESTIFY UNDER OATH; OR

(III) UNLESS THE DIRECTIVE IS OVERRULED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE WHO ARE PRESENT AT THE HEARING, DISOBEYS A DIRECTIVE OF THE PRESIDING CHAIRMAN AT THE HEARING TO ANSWER A RELEVANT QUESTION OR TO PRODUCE A RECORD, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC RECORD THAT HAS BEEN SUBPOENAED.

(6) BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE, THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE MAY APPLY FOR A CONTEMPT CITATION TO A CIRCUIT COURT.

15-520. FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

(A) THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE MAY MAKE A FINDING DEVELOPED FROM:

(1) INFORMATION PRESENTED DURING THE HEARING;

(2) THE ALLEGATION SUMMARY AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO;

(3) THE WRITTEN ANSWER OF THE LEGISLATOR TO THE ALLEGATION SUMMARY, IF ANY; AND

(4) ANY OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE AND MADE AVAILABLE TO THE LEGISLATOR

(B) CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS TITLE, THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE MAY ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR MAKING A FINDING IN ITS WRITTEN PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED UNDER § 15-519(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(C) IF THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE MAKES A FINDING UNDER THIS SECTION, THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE SHALL:

(1) TERMINATE THE PROCEEDING AGAINST A LEGISLATOR; OR

(2) ISSUE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATOR OR TO THE FULL HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATOR, INCLUDING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS.

15-521. REFERRAL TO PROSECUTING AUTHORITIES.

IF THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE, AT ANY TIME DURING ITS CONSIDERATION OF ANY COMPLAINT OR ALLEGATION SUMMARY OR DURING ANY PROCEEDING, FINDS THAT THERE ARE REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT A LEGISLATOR MAY HAVE COMMITTED A CRIMINAL OFFENSE, THE JOINT ETHICS COMMITTEE SHALL: