

Committee endorses PSC members on polls reforms

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The House Select Committee met today to endorse the newly-appointed members of the parliamentary select committee (PSC) on electoral reforms in the Dewan Rakyat speaker's office this morning.

A gaggle of politicians were spotted at the office including DAP supremo Lim Kit Siang, Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin and Kulai MP Ong Ka Ting.

Set up under a Bill tabled and passed by the House yesterday, the PSC on electoral reform is to look into improving the electoral system.

The nine members comprise five BN parliamentarians, three from Pakatan Rakyat and one Independent.

The BN's Kota Marudu MP Maximus Johnnity Ongkili (PBS) chairs the committee.

The other four BN representatives are Kapit MP Alexander Nanta Linggi (PBB); Kangar MP Mohd Radzi Sheikh Ahmad (Umno); Alor Gajah MP Fong Chan Onn (MCA); and Hulu Selangor MP P Kamalanathan (MIC).

Pakatan representatives are Gombak parliamentarian Azmin Ali (PKR); Kuala Krai MP Hatta Ramli (PAS) and Rasah representative Anthony Loke (DAP).

Wangsa Maju MP Wee Choo Keong filled in for the Independents.

The panel will have six months to come up with recommendations.

The BN-led government is adamant that the move is in line with Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's reform efforts.

But the opposition and observers see it as a damage-control ploy to allay the public outcry over the government's mishandling of the Bersih 2.0 electoral reform rally on July 9, which had led to arbitrary arrests, and the use of tear gas and water cannons.

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