

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1734

4
5 By: Representatives Madison, Bond, Judy, Hale, Salmon, Rodgers, Lynn, Shoffner, Ammons, Ferrell,
6 Dees, Carson, Gullett, Agee, King, Horn, W. Walker, Green, Bush, Bledsoe

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE WOMEN' S COMMISSION. "

Subtitle

"AN ACT TO REPEAL THE WOMEN' S COMMISSION. "

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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 20-84-101 is hereby repealed.

19 ~~20-84-101. Legislative findings.~~

20 ~~The General Assembly finds and declares that:~~

21 ~~(1) Arkansas women ranked forty-ninth (49th) and fiftieth (50th)~~
22 ~~in the nation in areas of poverty and education, respectively, in a study of~~
23 ~~women's economic and employment status. An important role for state government~~
24 ~~is to address the betterment of Arkansas women, and thus, the state as a~~
25 ~~whole. The General Assembly believes that useful and innovative measures can~~
26 ~~be developed to raise the educational and economic status of women.~~

27 ~~(2) Therefore, it is the intent of the General Assembly to create~~
28 ~~the Arkansas Women's Commission, which shall serve as a focal group for~~
29 ~~initiating policy affecting the advancement of women in education and~~
30 ~~economics.~~

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32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 20-84-102 is hereby repealed.

33 ~~20-84-102. Creation - Membership - Reimbursement - Meetings.~~

34 ~~(a) There is created the Arkansas Women's Commission which shall~~
35 ~~consist of eleven (11) female members appointed as follows:~~

36 ~~(A) There shall be four (4) members of the commission~~

1 ~~appointed by the Governor and each member shall be from one of this state's~~
2 ~~four (4) congressional districts.~~

3 ~~(B) The Governor shall appoint the four (4) members equally~~
4 ~~among the two major political parties in this state.~~

5 ~~(2) There shall be one (1) member appointed by the Lieutenant~~
6 ~~Governor.~~

7 ~~(3) There shall be two (2) legislative members of the commission.~~
8 ~~One (1) member shall be a member of the Senate and one (1) member shall be a~~
9 ~~member of the House of Representatives. They shall be appointed by and serve~~
10 ~~at the pleasure of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of~~
11 ~~the House, respectively.~~

12 ~~(4) There shall be one (1) member appointed by the Attorney~~
13 ~~General.~~

14 ~~(5) There shall be one (1) member appointed by the Secretary of~~
15 ~~State.~~

16 ~~(6) There shall be one (1) member appointed by the State~~
17 ~~Treasurer.~~

18 ~~(7) There shall be one (1) member appointed by the Chief Justice~~
19 ~~of the Arkansas Supreme Court.~~

20 ~~(b) Members shall be appointed for three-year staggered terms, to be~~
21 ~~assigned by lot. The terms shall commence on January 15 of each year. For the~~
22 ~~first two years, terms of four (4) members shall expire on January 14~~
23 ~~beginning January 14, 1999. On the third year, terms of three (3) members~~
24 ~~shall expire on January 14.~~

25 ~~(c) The commission shall annually select by majority vote one (1) of~~
26 ~~its members to serve as a chairperson and one (1) to serve as vice~~
27 ~~chairperson.~~

28 ~~(d) In the event of a vacancy on the commission in one of the~~
29 ~~nonlegislative positions for any reason other than expiration of a regular~~
30 ~~term, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by~~
31 ~~appointment of the designated officer in subdivision (a)(3)-(7) of a person~~
32 ~~meeting the same qualifications required for initial appointment.~~

33 ~~(e) Members of the commission shall not be entitled to compensation for~~
34 ~~their services but may receive expense reimbursement and a stipend not to~~
35 ~~exceed fifty dollars (\$50) per meeting in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.~~

36 ~~(f) The legislative members may, to the extent funds are available,~~

1 ~~receive, in lieu of reimbursement for meals, lodging and travel, the same per~~
2 ~~diem and mileage allowance for each day of attending meetings of the~~
3 ~~commission as is authorized by law for attending meetings of the interim~~
4 ~~committees of the General Assembly.~~

5 ~~(g) The commission shall hold its first meeting during January, 1998 at~~
6 ~~a place designated by the Governor. Subsequent meetings will be held quarterly~~
7 ~~or at the call of the chairperson.~~

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9 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 20-84-103 is hereby repealed.

10 ~~20-84-103. Functions, powers, and duties.~~

11 ~~The Arkansas Women's Commission shall have the following functions, powers,~~
12 ~~and duties:~~

13 ~~(1) To study and coordinate efforts to further education and the~~
14 ~~economic advancement of women;~~

15 ~~(2) To assist the Governor and the General Assembly in forming~~
16 ~~state policies and long-range plans for women's education and economic~~
17 ~~advancement and in answering needs related thereto;~~

18 ~~(3) To analyze and make recommendations concerning proposed~~
19 ~~legislation or programs that may affect women's education and economic~~
20 ~~advancement;~~

21 ~~(4) To apply for and receive grants or financial assistance from~~
22 ~~the federal government or other agencies, individuals or corporations;~~

23 ~~(5) To promote and encourage the establishment of a nonprofit~~
24 ~~center, and to cooperate and coordinate with and assist the center in~~
25 ~~acquiring state and federal government and private nonprofit and corporate~~
26 ~~foundation grant funds to aid in women's education and economic advancement;~~

27 ~~(6) The commission shall prepare and submit to the President Pro~~
28 ~~Tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House biennially, on January 1 of~~
29 ~~each odd numbered year, a comprehensive report concerning the activities~~
30 ~~undertaken by the commission, recommendations for legislative proposals, data~~
31 ~~concerning women's education and economic advancement and other pertinent~~
32 ~~information on activities conducted by the commission in the previous~~
33 ~~biennium. Other copies will be available on request.~~