

1 **State of Arkansas**

2 **78th General Assembly**

3 **Regular Session, 1991**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

4 **By: Representatives Walker, Mahony, McGee, Flanagan, Townsend and Brown**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS MINORITY HEALTH COMMISSION;

9 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

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13 SECTION 1. As used in this act:

14 (1) "Commission" means the Arkansas Minority Health Commission;

15 (2) "Minority" means black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian
16 Americans, and American Indians.

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18 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Arkansas Minority Health
19 Commission to consist of twelve (12) members to be appointed as follows:

20 (1) four (4) of the general public to be appointed by the
21 Governor with each of the four (4) congressional districts represented;

22 (2) two (2) members of the Arkansas Senate to be appointed by the
23 President Pro Tempore;

24 (3) two (2) members of the Arkansas House of Representatives to
25 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

26 (4) the director of the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse
27 Prevention of the Department of Human Services or his designee;

28 (5) the director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services of
29 the Department of Human Services or his designee;

30 (6) the director of the Arkansas Department of Health or his
31 designee; and

32 (7) the director of the Division of Mental Health Services of the
33 Department of Human Services or his designee.

34 (b) All persons appointed to the commission shall be persons who have
35 actively participated in health issues for minorities or have special

1 knowledge or experience with minority health issues.

2 (c) The members shall serve staggered two (2) year terms.

3 (d) The commission shall meet at least quarterly and at such other
4 times as necessary to carry out its duties as set forth in this act. The
5 commission shall elect one (1) of its members as chairperson and may, by
6 appropriate adoption of bylaws and rules, provide for the time, place and
7 manner of calling its meetings.

8 (e) The commission members shall serve without pay, but those members
9 not employed by the State of Arkansas shall receive reimbursement for actual
10 expenses incurred for attendance at meetings of the commission.

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12 SECTION 3. The commission shall:

13 (1) study issues relating to the delivery of and access to health
14 services for minorities in this state;

15 (2) identify any gaps in the health service delivery system that
16 particularly affect minorities;

17 (3) make recommendations to the relevant agencies and to the
18 legislature for improving the delivery of and access to health services for
19 minorities; and

20 (4) study and make recommendations as to whether adequate services are
21 available to insure future minority health needs will be met.

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23 SECTION 4. The agencies represented on the commission may enter into an
24 agreement to pay appropriate costs of the commission and clerical and support
25 staff.

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27 SECTION 5. Any state agency, state supported hospital, or state medical
28 school shall submit to the commission any information the commission requests
29 that relates to health issues for minorities except for names, addresses,
30 telephone numbers or any other identifying information.

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32 SECTION 6. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
33 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
34 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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1 SECTION 7. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
2 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
3 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
4 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
5 act are declared to be severable.

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7 SECTION 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
8 hereby repealed.

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