

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Representatives Wilkins, J. Wilson, Townsend, Smith, Argue, Sheid, Pryor, Gibson,**
5 **Roberts, Brown, Brownlee, Walker, Schexnayder, King, Collier, Jordan, Mahony, Jones,**
6 **McGee, and Watts**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1919

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
11 COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

14 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
15 COMMISSION."

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

19 SECTION 1. (a) There is hereby created a commission to be known as the
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission.

21 (b) The Commission shall consist of twenty-five (25) members:

22 (1) A representative of the Governor's office, to be appointed by
23 the Governor and to serve at the pleasure of the Governor;

24 (2) Four (4) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the
25 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and no more than two (2) of whom shall be
26 from the same political party;

27 (3) Four (4) members of the House of Representatives, to be
28 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and no more than two
29 (2) of whom shall be from the same political party;

30 (4) Twelve (12) members of the general public, to be appointed by
31 the Governor, and who shall be residents of the State and shall represent the
32 various geographical areas of the State, various civic, social, religious,
33 educational, business and artistic organizations, and shall be committed to
34 resolving conflict and to upholding the humanitarian philosophy of Dr. King;
35 and

1 (5) Four (4) members of the general public, to be appointed by
2 the Governor, and who shall be residents of the State between the ages of
3 sixteen (16) and nineteen (19) and no more than one (1) of whom shall reside
4 in the same Congressional district.

5 (c) Legislative members shall serve during the legislative term in
6 which the appointment is made. At the first meeting of the commission, the
7 members of the general public shall draw lots for terms so that four (4)
8 members will serve for a term of one (1) year; four (4) members will serve for
9 a term of two (2) years; and four (4) members will serve for a term of three
10 (3) years. All successors to these members shall serve for a term of three
11 (3) years. No member of the Commission shall serve more than two (2)
12 consecutive terms. Vacancies in the membership shall be filled for the
13 balance of the unexpired term in the manner as the original appointments were
14 made.

15 (d) The Governor shall designate two (2) co-chairs of the commission
16 from the general public membership.

17 (e) A majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the
18 transaction of business.

19 (f) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation but, to
20 the extent monies are appropriated therefor, shall be eligible to receive
21 reimbursement for mileage and other expenses actually incurred in performance
22 of their duties in accordance with the rates and standards for reimbursement
23 to state employees.

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25 SECTION 2. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission shall have the
26 following duties:

27 (1) To promote racial harmony, understanding, respect and good will
28 among all citizens; and

29 (2) To promote principles of nonviolence; and

30 (3) To promote among the people of Arkansas by appropriate activities
31 both awareness and appreciation of the civil rights movement and advocacy of
32 the principles and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

33 (4) To develop, coordinate, and advise the Governor and the General
34 Assembly of appropriate ceremonies and activities throughout the State
35 relating to the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday; and

1 (5) To receive donations and contributions from individuals and public
2 and private organizations in order to carry out its responsibilities.

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4 SECTION 3. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission may employ such staff
5 and consultants as authorized by law and fix their compensation, duties,
6 authority, and responsibilities.

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8 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
9 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
10 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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12 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
13 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
14 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
15 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
16 act are declared to be severable.

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18 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
19 hereby repealed.

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/s/Josetta Wilkins, et al

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As Engrossed: 4/8/93

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