

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 83rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2001  
4

As Engrossed: H4/6/01  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2541

5 By: Representative T. Steele  
6  
7

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO TO RESTRUCTURE THE ARKANSAS MI NORI TY  
10 HEALTH COMMI SSION; TO PROVIDE NEW PURPOSE FOR THE  
11 COMMI SSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

14 **Subtitle**

15 AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE THE ARKANSAS  
16 MI NORI TY HEALTH COMMI SSION; TO PROVIDE  
17 NEW PURPOSE FOR THE COMMI SSION.  
18  
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 20-2-102(a), concerning membership of the*  
23 *Arkansas Minority Health Commission, is amended to read as follows:*

24 *20-2-102. Creation - Members - Compensation.*

25 *(a) There is established the Arkansas Minority Health Commission to*  
26 *consist of twelve (12) members to be appointed as follows:*

27 *(1) Four (4) of the general public to be appointed by the*  
28 *Governor, with each of the four (4) congressional districts represented;*

29 *(2) Two (2) members of the Senate to be appointed by the*  
30 *President Pro Tempore;*

31 *(3) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives to be*  
32 *appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;*

33 *(4) The Director of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse*  
34 *Prevention of the Department of Health or his designee;*

35 *(5) ~~The Director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services of~~*  
36 *~~the Department of Human Services or his designee~~ One (1) member of the*

1 general public to be appointed by the chair of the House Interim Committee on  
2 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor;

3 (6) The Director of the Department of Health or his designee;  
4 and

5 (7) ~~The Director of the Division of Mental Health Services of~~  
6 ~~the Department of Human Services or his designee~~ One (1) member of the  
7 general public to be appointed by the chair of the Senate Interim Committee  
8 on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

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10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 20-2-103 is amended to read as follows:

11 20-2-103. Powers and duties generally.

12 The Arkansas Minority Health Commission shall:

13 (1) ~~(A) Study issues relating to the delivery of and access to health~~  
14 ~~services for minorities in this state~~ Determine and document impediments to  
15 delivery of and access to health services for minorities in this state; and

16 (B) Reassess the documented data at least biannually to  
17 determine the progress or lack of progress being made toward removing any  
18 identified impediments;

19 (2) ~~(A) Identify and document any gaps in the health service delivery~~  
20 ~~system that particularly affect minorities; and~~

21 (B) Reassess the documented data at least biannually to  
22 determine progress or lack of progress being made toward alleviating any  
23 identified gaps;

24 (3) ~~Make recommendations to the relevant agencies and to the General~~  
25 ~~Assembly for improving the delivery of and access to health services for~~  
26 ~~minorities~~ Assess the adequacy and disparities of available services for  
27 minorities utilizing all available resources, including holding public  
28 hearings in areas around the state where a significant minority population  
29 exists, to ensure future minority needs will be met; and

30 (4) ~~Study and make recommendations as to whether adequate services are~~  
31 ~~available to ensure that future minority health needs will be met~~ Implement  
32 developed or adapted programs that will help improve the health status of  
33 minorities; and

34 (5) (A) Make recommendations to improve the delivery of and access to  
35 health services for minorities to the relevant agencies and to the House and  
36 Senate Interim Committees on Public, Health, Welfare, and Labor; and

1 (B) Submit the required recommendations not later than December  
2 of each year.

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4 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 2, Subtitle 1 is amended by  
5 adding the following additional section:

6 20-2-107. The Director of the Minority Health Commission shall issue a  
7 biannual report to the House and Senate Interim Committees on Public Health,  
8 Welfare, and Labor outlining the progress made toward meeting the duties of  
9 the Minority health Commission as prescribed in § 20-2-103.

10 /s/ T. Steele

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