

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 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4

As Engrossed: S3/31/05 H4/7/05

A Bill

SENATE BILL 1124

5 By: Senator Steele
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7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TASK FORCE ON
10 *LATINO AND HISPANIC* AFFAIRS; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

14 *AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TASK FORCE*
15 *ON LATINO AND HISPANIC AFFAIRS.*
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25 is amended to add an additional
21 chapter to read as follow:

22 25-37-101. Arkansas Task Force on Latino and Hispanic Affairs.

23 (a) There is established a task force to be known as the "Arkansas
24 Task Force on Hispanic Affairs".

25 (b) The task force shall consist of fifteen (15) members as follows:

26 (1) Five (5) persons appointed by the Governor;

27 (2) Five (5) persons appointed the President Pro Tempore of the
28 Senate; and

29 (3) Five (5) persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of
30 Representatives.

31 (c) The appointed task force members shall be:

32 (1) Individuals who have demonstrated an understanding of the
33 Latino and Hispanic community and the issues affecting the development of
34 this community in Arkansas based on their professional or life experiences;
35 and

36 (2) Residents of the State of Arkansas at the time of



1 appointment and throughout their terms.

2 (d)(1) In 2005, five (5) members shall be appointed by the Speaker of
3 the House of Representatives as follows:

4 (A) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2007;

5 (B) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2008; and

6 (C) One (1) for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

7 (2) In 2005, five (5) members shall be appointed by the
8 President Pro Tempore of the Senate as follows:

9 (A) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2007;

10 (B) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2008; and

11 (C) One (1) for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

12 (3) In 2005, five (5) members shall be appointed by the Governor
13 as follows:

14 (A) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2007;

15 (B) Two (2) for a term to expire June 30, 2008; and

16 (C) One (1) for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

17 (4) Subsequent appointments shall be for a terms of four (4)
18 years.

19 (5)(A) In selecting the members of the task force, the
20 appointing officials shall solicit input from the Latino organizations,
21 Latino-serving institutions, and the Latino community.

22 (B) The appointing officials shall consider the following
23 factors when appointing members to the task force:

24 (i) At least two (2) members of the task force shall
25 be between the ages of sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) years of age;

26 (ii) At least two (2) members of the task force
27 shall have professional or substantial life experiences in each of the
28 following areas:

29 (a) Health;

30 (b) Education to include prekindergarten
31 through grade 12 (preK-12);

32 (c) Higher education;

33 (d) Immigration;

34 (e) Community service; and

35 (f) Small business; and

36 (iii) Twelve (12) of the fifteen (15) members shall

1 be chosen from each of the four (4) Congressional districts with at least
2 three (3) members from each Congressional district.

3 (e) The task force shall select a chair at the first organizational
4 meeting.

5 (f)(1) If for any reason a vacancy occurs in an appointed position,
6 the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the official that made the
7 appointment.

8 (2) The new appointee shall serve for the remainder of the
9 unexpired term.

10 (g)(1) The task force shall meet at least quarterly, but no meetings
11 shall be held outside of the State of Arkansas.

12 (2) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute
13 a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

14 (3) All actions of the task force shall be by a majority vote of
15 the full membership of the task force.

16 (h) The duties of the task force shall include:

17 (1) To develop, coordinate, and assist other public and private
18 organizations with the understanding of Latino and Hispanic culture;

19 (2) To gather and disseminate information and conduct hearings,
20 conferences, and special studies on problems and programs impacting Latinos
21 and Hispanics;

22 (3) To conduct training programs for community leadership;

23 (4) To conduct quarterly public forums that will allow the
24 Latino community at large to have input in the duties of the task force to
25 voice their needs and concerns;

26 (5) To advise Arkansas elected officials and state agencies on
27 issues concerning the Latino community in Arkansas;

28 (6) To propose solutions to specific problems to elected
29 officials, government agencies, and community organizations;

30 (7) To promote diversity, bridge cultural barriers, and
31 strengthen relations between all citizens of Arkansas; and

32 (8) To promote community and volunteer service among Latinos in
33 Arkansas.

34 (i)(1) General staff support, facilities, and operating assistance for
35 the task force shall be provided by the Bureau of Legislative Research.

36 (2)(A) Members of the task force Shall serve without pay.

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(B) May receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902, to the extent funds are available.

/s/ Steele