

SENATE, No. 404

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 18, 1996

By Senator BRYANT

1 AN ACT establishing an Advisory Commission on African-American  
2 Affairs and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. There is established an Advisory Commission on  
8 African-American Affairs to consist of 10 members: two members  
9 appointed by the President of the Senate from among the members  
10 thereof, not more than one of whom shall be of the same political  
11 party; two members appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly  
12 from among the members thereof, not more than one of whom shall be  
13 of the same political party; the Commissioner of Community Affairs,  
14 or the commissioner's designee; and five public members appointed by  
15 the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, who are  
16 residents of the State and who represent the African-American  
17 community within the State. Legislative members shall serve during  
18 their terms of office. Public members shall serve for a term of three  
19 years from the date of their appointment and until their successors are  
20 appointed and qualified; except that of the first appointments  
21 hereunder: one shall be for a term of one year, two for two years, and  
22 two for three years. Vacancies resulting from causes other than by  
23 expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term only and shall  
24 be filled in the same manner as the original appointments were made.

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26 2. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation,  
27 but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred  
28 in the performance of their duties.

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30 3. The commission shall select from among its members a  
31 chairperson and also shall select a secretary who need not be a member  
32 of the commission.

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34 4. It shall be the duty of the commission to advise the Governor  
35 and the Legislature on the needs, concerns, accomplishments and  
36 contributions of New Jersey's African-Americans, as well as of the  
37 possible impact of legislation affecting the State's African-American

1 community. The commission shall elicit input from the  
2 African-American community by arranging for the commission, or a  
3 subcommittee thereof, to visit community centers, meet with  
4 community leaders, attend and sponsor community meetings and take  
5 other similar actions. A subcommittee formed by the commission for  
6 this purpose shall consist of five members: two legislative members,  
7 not more than one of whom shall be from the same political party; and  
8 three public members all of whom shall be appointed by the  
9 chairperson of the commission from the members thereof. Any such  
10 subcommittee shall report to the commission, at the request of the  
11 chairperson, on its findings and recommendations.

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13 5. The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and  
14 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or  
15 municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it may  
16 require and as may be available to it to carry out its purposes, and to  
17 employ such stenographic, clerical, technical and expert assistance and  
18 incur travel and other miscellaneous expenses as it may deem  
19 necessary, in order to perform its duties and as may be within the  
20 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it to  
21 accomplish its objectives.

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23 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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29 This bill establishes an Advisory Commission on African-American  
30 Affairs to advise the Governor and the Legislature on the needs,  
31 concerns, accomplishments and contributions of New Jersey's  
32 African-Americans, and of the possible impact of legislation affecting  
33 the State's African-American community.

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38 Establishes an Advisory Commission on African-American Affairs.