

SENATE BILL No. 1251

April 15, 2008, Introduced by Senators GARCIA, VAN WOERKOM, HARDIMAN, JANSEN and KAHN and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 164, entitled

"An act to create a commission on Spanish-speaking affairs, an office of Spanish-speaking affairs, and an interagency council on Spanish-speaking affairs; to prescribe their powers and duties; to provide for appropriations; and to abolish the advisory council for the Spanish-speaking,"

by amending sections 1, 2, and 3 (MCL 18.301, 18.302, and 18.303), section 2 as amended by 2004 PA 94.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Commission" means the commission on Spanish-speaking
3 affairs created in section 2.

4 (b) "Director" means the director of the office of Spanish-
5 speaking affairs.

6 (c) "Office" means the office of Spanish-speaking affairs as
7 created in section 4.

1 (d) "Spanish-speaking people" ~~means a person, including a~~
2 ~~migrant agricultural worker, who: has a Spanish surname; has a~~
3 ~~parent or grandparent of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central~~
4 ~~American, South American, or other Spanish origin or descent; uses~~
5 **INCLUDES PEOPLE WHO USE** Spanish as the primary language or mother
6 tongue, ~~+~~ ~~is~~ **ARE** identified by an employer in an EEO-1 report as a
7 "Spanish-surnamed American", ~~+~~ ~~or is regarded in the community as~~
8 ~~being of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central American, South~~
9 ~~American, or other Spanish origin or descent~~ **ARE MEMBERS OR ARE**
10 **REGARDED AS BEING MEMBERS OF A COMMUNITY THAT USES SPANISH AS THE**
11 **PRIMARY LANGUAGE.**

12 Sec. 2. (1) A commission on Spanish-speaking affairs is
13 established within the department of labor and economic growth. The
14 commission shall consist of 15 members appointed by the governor by
15 and with the advice and consent of the senate. The commission shall
16 elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and other officers from its
17 members as it deems advisable.

18 (2) Members of the commission shall be Spanish-speaking. ~~and~~
19 ~~of Spanish speaking origin.~~ Members shall be appointed from urban,
20 suburban, and rural geographical areas representative of the
21 Spanish-speaking people throughout this state.

22 (3) The term of each member shall be 3 years. Of the members
23 first appointed, 5 shall serve for 3-year terms, 5 shall serve for
24 2-year terms, and 5 shall serve for a 1-year term. A vacancy shall
25 be filled by the governor in the same manner as the original
26 appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

27 (4) The commission shall meet not less than ~~12-6~~ times during

1 each calendar year. Each member of the commission shall receive per
2 diem compensation as appropriated in the annual budget. Per diem
3 compensation shall be paid only for a full day's commission work at
4 which a quorum is present. A member shall receive reimbursement for
5 actual and necessary traveling expenses incurred in the performance
6 of official business. Reimbursement shall be made in the manner
7 provided by law for state employees.

8 (5) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a
9 quorum. A majority of the members of the commission is required for
10 final action by the commission. A vacancy in the commission shall
11 not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise the
12 powers of the commission.

13 Sec. 3. (1) The purpose of the commission shall be to develop
14 a unified policy and plan of action to serve the needs of
15 Michigan's Spanish-speaking people.

16 (2) The commission shall:

17 (a) Advise the governor, the legislature, and the office
18 concerning the coordination and administration of state programs
19 serving Spanish-speaking people.

20 (b) Make recommendations to the governor and legislature
21 regarding changes in state programs, statutes, and policies.

22 (c) Advise the governor and legislature of the nature,
23 magnitude, and priorities of the problems of Spanish-speaking
24 people.

25 (d) Review and approve grants to be made from federal, state,
26 or private funds ~~which~~ **THAT** are administered by the office.

27 (e) Review and advise the governor and the legislature on the

1 state's policies concerning Spanish-speaking affairs.

2 (f) Secure appropriate recognition of Spanish-speaking
3 accomplishments and contributions to this state.

4 (g) Review and approve the annual report by the office of
5 Spanish-speaking affairs as described in section 5.

6 (H) COORDINATE A HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION.