

**CHAPTER 1076**  
**COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**  
*H.F. 2189*

**AN ACT** creating a commission on children, youth, and families and providing its purpose and duties.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. **NEW SECTION. 237B.1 POLICY FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES.** It is the policy of this state that the commission on children, youth, and families work with state agencies in an advisory capacity to help plan needed services for children, youth, and families, improve and coordinate planning efforts with federal, state and local service providers, provide the governor and the legislature with recommendations and information to upgrade and improve services for children, youth, and families, provide local communities with technical assistance, identify state and federal resources that can be used in local areas, and provide needed programs and services to parents to assist and support them in their parenting role.

Sec. 2. **NEW SECTION. 237B.2 COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES.**

1. The commission on children, youth, and families is established.
2. The following persons or a designee are members of the commission:
  - a. The commissioner of the department of human services.
  - b. The director of the department of substance abuse.
  - c. The superintendent of public instruction.
  - d. The director of the department of corrections.
  - e. The commissioner of public health.
3. The following members of the commission shall be appointed by the governor:
  - a. A member of a county board of supervisors.
  - b. A mayor or member of a city council.
  - c. A member of the board of directors of a school corporation.
  - d. Eight citizens, one of whom shall be a professional family counselor.
  - e. A person sixteen through eighteen years of age at the time of appointment.
4. The following shall be nonvoting members of the commission:
  - a. Two members of the senate, not more than one from any political party, appointed by the president of the senate.
    - b. Two members of the house of representatives, not more than one from any political party, appointed by the speaker of the house.
    - c. A district court judge appointed by the governor.
5. The members of the commission appointed by the governor shall be appointed to terms of four years beginning July 1. Legislative members shall be appointed to terms of two years beginning January 1 of odd-numbered years. However, members appointed under subsections 3 and 4 shall cease to be members if they no longer hold the office from which they were

appointed. Not more than seven of the members appointed under subsection 3 shall belong to the same political party at the time of appointment. A person designated under subsection 2 is appointed for a term of four years beginning July 1 and must be an assistant director, or head of a division, section, or bureau of that agency whose function relates to children, youth, or families while serving on the commission. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Not more than nine of the voting members of the commission shall be of the same gender.

Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 237B.3 MEETINGS AND OFFICERS. The governor shall appoint from the commission's voting membership a chairperson and the members shall elect other officers as the commission deems necessary, who shall serve for a period of two years. The commission shall meet at regular intervals at least six times each year and may hold special meetings at the call of the chairperson or at the request of a majority of the voting members.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 237B.4 PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to promote coordination of state, local and private programs, resources and services to meet the needs of children, youth, and families. The commission shall work to identify unmet needs and to develop a plan to meet those needs and to improve coordination of efforts. It shall serve as an advocate for Iowa's children, youth, and families to decision-making bodies and to the public. The commission shall make an annual report to the governor and general assembly by December 1 of its activities and legislative recommendations.

Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 237B.5 DIRECTOR. The governor shall appoint a director for the commission, subject to confirmation by the senate, who shall serve as executive officer of the commission and be exempt from chapter 19A. The director shall be responsible to the commission and with the approval of the commission shall employ and supervise the commission's staff and be responsible for implementing policy set by the commission.

Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 237B.6 EXPENSES. Members of the commission, while engaged in their official duties, shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses.

Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 237B.7 GRANTS AND GIFTS RECEIVED. The commission may receive federal funds or any grants or gifts on behalf of the state for the purposes within its jurisdiction. All federal funds, grants, and gifts shall be deposited with the state treasurer and used only for the purposes agreed upon as conditions for receipt of the funds, grants, or gifts.

Sec. 8. TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES. The responsibilities, records, and staff of the Iowa council for children and families and the Iowa youth council operating in the office for planning and programming shall be transferred to the commission on children, youth, and families. Upon the transfer, the two councils shall be terminated. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 19A, the staff of the Iowa council for children and families and the Iowa youth council, upon transfer to the commission, shall become covered by and subject to the state merit system, assigned classifications comparable to their previous exempt classifications, and credited for their previous exempt service for purposes of seniority, benefits and review dates. The office for planning and programming shall provide office facilities and administrative support services to the commission as agreed to by the commission and the governor.

Sec. 9. INITIAL TERMS AND APPOINTMENTS. The agency head shall designate a member of an agency listed in section 237B.2, subsection 2, to serve in lieu of the agency head

for the first two years of the commission if that person is an assistant director or the head of a division, section or bureau of that agency the function of which relates to children, youth, or families and the person previously served on either the Iowa council for children and families or the Iowa youth council. At least two citizen members of each of those councils shall be provided an opportunity to serve on the commission on children, youth, and families. Six of the members appointed under section 237B.2, subsection 3, shall be appointed to initial terms of two years.

Approved April 13, 1984

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**CHAPTER 1077**  
**LENGTH OF CERTAIN BUSES**  
*H.F. 2232*

**AN ACT** to allow the operation of articulated buses not exceeding sixty-one feet in length on the public streets and highways.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 321.457, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

b. A single bus, unladen or with load, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty feet, except that buses constructed so as to contain a flexible part allowing articulation shall not exceed sixty-one feet.

Approved April 13, 1984