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Sub Comm. State Gov.
Bahr, Jink, Kramer

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1993

SENATE FILE 194
BY ROSENBERG AND SZYMONIAK

(COMPANION TO LSB 2249HH BY FALLON)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating a commission of Asian and Pacific Islander-
2 Americans within the department of human rights.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Sections 2 through 12 of this Act shall be
2 enacted as subchapter 8 of chapter 216A.

3 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 216A.121 DEFINITIONS.

4 For purposes of this subchapter, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 1. "Administrator" means the administrator of the division
7 of Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans of the department of
8 human rights.

9 2. "Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans" means persons of
10 Asian or Pacific Island descent.

11 3. "Commission" means the commission of Asian and Pacific
12 Islander-Americans.

13 4. "Division" means the division of Asian and Pacific
14 Islander-Americans of the department of human rights.

15 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 216A.122 ESTABLISHMENT.

16 A commission of Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans is
17 established consisting of nine members appointed by the
18 governor pursuant to chapter 69, to four-year staggered terms.
19 Vacancies in the membership shall be filled for the unexpired
20 term in the same manner as the original appointment. The
21 members of the commission shall select one of the members to
22 serve as chairperson of the commission.

23 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 216A.123 MEETINGS OF THE
24 COMMISSION.

25 The commission shall meet at least four times each year,
26 and shall hold special meetings on the call of the
27 chairperson. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to
28 chapter 17A as it deems necessary for the commission and
29 division. The members of the commission shall be reimbursed
30 for actual expenses while engaged in their official duties. A
31 member may also be eligible to receive compensation as
32 provided in section 7E.6.

33 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 216A.124 DUTIES.

34 The commission shall do all of the following:

35 1. Advise the governor and the general assembly on issues

1 confronting Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans in this
2 state, including the unique problems of non-English-speaking
3 immigrants and refugees.

4 2. Advise the governor and the general assembly of
5 administrative and legislative changes necessary to ensure
6 Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans access to benefits and
7 services provided to people in this state.

8 3. Recommend to the governor and the general assembly any
9 revisions in the state's affirmative action program and other
10 steps necessary to eliminate underutilization of Asian and
11 Pacific Islander-Americans in the state's work force.

12 4. Recommend to the governor and the general assembly
13 legislation designed to improve the economic and social
14 condition of Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans in this
15 state.

16 5. Serve as a conduit to state government for
17 organizations of Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans in this
18 state.

19 6. Serve as a referral agency to assist Asian and Pacific
20 Islander-Americans in securing access to state agencies and
21 programs.

22 7. Serve as a liaison with the federal government, local
23 government units, and private organizations on matters
24 relating to the Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans of this
25 state.

26 8. Perform or contract for the performance of studies
27 designed to suggest solutions to the problems of Asian and
28 Pacific Islander-Americans in the areas of education,
29 employment, human rights, health, housing, social welfare, and
30 other related areas.

31 9. Implement programs designed to solve the problems of
32 Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans when authorized by law.

33 10. Publicize the accomplishments of Asian and Pacific
34 Islander-Americans and their contributions to this state.

35 11. Work with other state and federal agencies and

1 organizations to develop small business opportunities and
2 promote economic development for Asian and Pacific Islander-
3 Americans.

4 12. Supervise development of an Asian and Pacific trade
5 primer, outlining Asian and Pacific customs, cultural
6 traditions, and business practices, including language usage
7 for use by Iowa's export community.

8 13. Cooperate with other state and federal agencies and
9 organizations to develop improved state trade relations with
10 Asian and Pacific countries.

11 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 216A.125 REVIEW OF GRANT
12 APPLICATIONS AND BUDGET REQUESTS.

13 State departments and agencies shall consult with the
14 commission concerning any applications for federal funding
15 that will have its primary effect on Asian and Pacific
16 Islander-Americans in Iowa before development of the
17 application. The commission shall advise the governor and the
18 director of revenue and finance concerning any state agency
19 request that will have its primary effect on Asian-Pacific
20 persons in Iowa.

21 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 216A.126 ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.

22 The commission may:

23 1. Enter into contracts, within the limit of funds made
24 available, with individuals, organizations, and institutions
25 for services.

26 2. Accept grants of money or property from the federal
27 government or any other source, and may upon its own order use
28 this money, property, or other resources to accomplish the
29 duties of the commission.

30 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 216A.127 EMPLOYEES AND
31 RESPONSIBILITY.

32 The commission shall employ other necessary employees.
33 Pursuant to section 216A.2, the commission shall have
34 responsibility for budgetary and personnel decisions for the
35 commission and division. The administrator shall carry out

1 programs and policies as determined by the commission.

2 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 216A.128 STATE AGENCY ASSISTANCE.

3 On the request of the commission, state departments and
4 agencies shall supply the commission with advisory staff
5 services on matters relating to the jurisdiction of the
6 commission. The commission shall cooperate and coordinate its
7 activities with other state agencies to the highest possible
8 degree.

9 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. 216A.129 ANNUAL REPORT.

10 Not later than February 1 of each year the commission shall
11 file a report with the governor and the general assembly of
12 its proceedings for the previous calendar year, and may submit
13 with the report such recommendations pertaining to its affairs
14 as the commission deems desirous, including recommendations
15 for legislative consideration and other action it deems
16 necessary.

17 Sec. 11. Section 216A.1, Code 1993, is amended by adding
18 the following new subsection:

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. Division of Asian and Pacific
20 Islander-Americans.

21 Sec. 12. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. Four of the members
22 appointed to the initial commission shall be designated by the
23 governor to serve two-year terms, and five shall be designated
24 by the governor to serve four-year terms. Succeeding
25 appointments shall be for a term of four years.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill creates a division of Asian and Pacific Islander-
28 Americans within the department of human rights. The
29 commission of Asian and Pacific Islander-Americans is also
30 created. The commission consists of nine members, appointed
31 by the governor. Duties of the commission are specified.

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