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HOUSE FILE 1140

Human and Industrial Relations

By SHAW, LIPSKY, McELROY, SARGISSON,
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MAYBERRY

*State Govt. 2/24/72
Sen. " " 3/22/72, Pass 3/22(1111)*

Passed House, Date 3-13-72

Passed Senate, Date 3-23-72

Vote: Ayes 59 Nays 31

Vote: Ayes 41 Nays 4

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act to establish a commission on the status of women and
2 to define its powers and duties.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. ESTABLISHMENT. There is established a
2 commission on the status of women, hereinafter referred to
3 as the "commission", to consist of twenty-four members,
4 appointed by the governor and representing a cross section
5 of the citizens of Iowa. The commission shall be nonpartisan,
6 and the members shall be appointed without reference to their
7 political affiliation. The governor shall appoint one of
8 the members to serve as chairman.

9 Sec. 2. TERM OF OFFICE. One-half of the members appointed
10 to the initial commission shall be designated by the governor
11 to serve two-year terms, and one-half shall be designated
12 by the governor to serve four-year terms. Succeeding
13 appointments shall be for a term of four years. Vacancies
14 in the membership shall be filled for the unexpired term in
15 the same manner as the original appointment.

16 Sec. 3. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall
17 meet at least four times each year, and shall hold special
18 meetings on the call of the chairman. Ten members shall
19 constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of at least thirteen
20 members shall be necessary for the commission to render a
21 determination or decision. The commission shall adopt rules
22 and regulations as it deems necessary.

23 Sec. 4. OBJECTIVES OF COMMISSION. The commission shall
24 study the changing needs and problems of the women of this
25 state, and develop and recommend new programs and constructive
26 action to the governor and the general assembly, including
27 but not limited to, the following areas:

- 28 1. Public and private employment policies and practices.
- 29 2. Iowa labor laws.
- 30 3. Legal treatment relating to political and civil rights.
- 31 4. The family and the employed woman.
- 32 5. Expanded programs to help women as wives, mothers,
33 and workers.
- 34 6. Women as citizen volunteers.
- 35 7. Education.

1 Sec. 5. DUTIES. The commission shall:

2 1. Serve as a clearinghouse on programs and agencies
3 operating to assist women.

4 2. Conduct conferences.

5 3. Cooperate with governmental agencies to assist them
6 in equalizing opportunities between men and women in employ-
7 ment and in expanding women's rights and opportunities.

8 4. Serve as the central permanent agency for the develop-
9 ment of services for women.

10 5. Cooperate with public and private agencies in joint
11 efforts to study and resolve problems relating to the status
12 of women.

13 6. Publish and disseminate information relating to women
14 and develop other educational programs.

15 7. Provide assistance to organized efforts by communities,
16 organizations, associations, and other groups working toward
17 the improvement of women's status.

18 Sec. 6. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY. The commission may:

19 1. Do all things necessary, proper, and expedient in
20 accomplishing the duties listed in section five (5) of this
21 Act and this section.

22 2. Hold hearings.

23 3. Enter into contracts, within the limit of funds made
24 available, with individuals, organizations, and institutions
25 for services furthering the objectives of the commission as
26 listed in section four (4) of this Act.

27 4. Seek advice and counsel of informed individuals, or
28 any agricultural, industrial, professional, labor or trade
29 association, or civic group in the accomplishment of the
30 objectives of the commission.

31 5. Accept grants of money or property from the federal
32 government or any other source, and may upon its own order
33 use this money, property, or other resources to accomplish
34 the objectives of the commission.

35 Sec. 7. ACCESS TO INFORMATION. The commission shall have

1 access to all nonconfidential records, data, information,
2 and statistics of all departments, boards, commissions,
3 agencies, and institutions of this state, and upon terms which
4 may be mutually agreed upon, have studies and research
5 conducted.

6 Sec. 8. ANNUAL REPORT. Not later than February first
7 of each year the commission shall file a report with the
8 governor and the general assembly of its proceedings for the
9 previous calendar year, and may submit with the report such
10 recommendations pertaining to its affairs as it deems desirable,
11 including recommendations for legislative consideration and
12 other action it deems necessary.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill provides for the statutory establishment of a
15 Commission on the Status of Women. Governor's Commissions
16 on the Status of Women were appointed in 1963, 1969, and 1971
17 without statutory mandate.

18 The Governor is required to appoint a 24-member Commission
19 on the Status of Women.

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