

# Senate Study Bill 231

## Conference Committee Text

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1 1 Section 1. Sections 2 through 13 of this Act shall be  
1 2 enacted as subchapter 8 of chapter 216A.  
1 3 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 216A.121 DEFINITIONS.  
1 4 For purposes of this subchapter, unless the context  
1 5 otherwise requires:  
1 6 1. "Administrator" means the administrator of the division  
1 7 of Asian-Pacific persons of the department of human rights.  
1 8 2. "Asian-Pacific person" means a person from any of the  
1 9 countries of Asia or the Pacific islands.  
1 10 3. "Commission" means the commission of Asian-Pacific  
1 11 persons.  
1 12 4. "Division" means the division of Asian-Pacific persons  
1 13 of the department of human rights.  
1 14 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 216A.122 ESTABLISHMENT.  
1 15 A commission of Asian-Pacific persons is established  
1 16 consisting of nine members appointed by the governor, and  
1 17 confirmed by the senate, pursuant to chapter 69, to four-year  
1 18 staggered terms. Vacancies in the membership shall be filled  
1 19 for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original  
1 20 appointment. The members of the commission shall select one  
1 21 of the members to serve as chairperson of the commission.  
1 22 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 216A.123 MEETINGS OF THE  
1 23 COMMISSION.  
1 24 The commission shall meet at least four times each year,  
1 25 and shall hold special meetings on the call of the  
1 26 chairperson. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to  
1 27 chapter 17A as it deems necessary for the commission and  
1 28 division. The members of the commission shall be reimbursed  
1 29 for actual expenses while engaged in their official duties. A  
1 30 member may also be eligible to receive compensation as  
1 31 provided in section 7E.6.  
1 32 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 216A.124 DUTIES.  
1 33 The commission shall do all of the following:  
1 34 1. Advise the governor and the general assembly on issues  
1 35 confronting Asian-Pacific persons in this state, including the  
2 1 unique problems of non-English-speaking immigrants and  
2 2 refugees.  
2 3 2. Advise the governor and the general assembly of  
2 4 administrative and legislative changes necessary to ensure  
2 5 Asian-Pacific persons access to benefits and services provided  
2 6 to people in this state.  
2 7 3. Recommend to the governor and the general assembly any  
2 8 revisions in the state's affirmative action program and other  
2 9 steps necessary to eliminate underutilization of Asian-Pacific  
2 10 persons in the state's work force.  
2 11 4. Recommend to the governor and the general assembly  
2 12 legislation intended to improve the economic and social  
2 13 condition of Asian-Pacific persons in this state.  
2 14 5. Serve as a conduit to state government for  
2 15 organizations of Asian-Pacific persons in this state.  
2 16 6. Serve as a referral agency to assist Asian-Pacific  
2 17 persons in securing access to state agencies and programs.  
2 18 7. Serve as a liaison with the federal government, local  
2 19 government units, and private organizations on matters  
2 20 relating to the Asian-Pacific persons of this state.  
2 21 8. Perform or contract for the performance of studies

2 22 designed to suggest solutions to the problems of Asian-Pacific  
2 23 persons in the areas of education, employment, human rights,  
2 24 health, housing, social welfare, and other related areas.

2 25 9. Implement programs designed to solve the problems of  
2 26 Asian-Pacific persons when authorized by law.

2 27 10. Publicize the accomplishments of Asian-Pacific persons  
2 28 and their contributions to this state.

2 29 11. Work with other state and federal agencies and  
2 30 organizations to develop small business opportunities and  
2 31 promote economic development for Asian-Pacific persons.

2 32 12. Supervise development of an Asian-Pacific trade  
2 33 primer, outlining Asian and Pacific customs, cultural  
2 34 traditions, and business practices, including language usage  
2 35 for use by Iowa's export community.

3 1 13. Cooperate with other state and federal agencies and  
3 2 organizations to develop improved state trade relations with  
3 3 Asian and Pacific countries.

3 4 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 216A.125 REVIEW OF GRANT  
3 5 APPLICATIONS AND BUDGET REQUESTS.

3 6 State departments and agencies shall consult with the  
3 7 commission concerning any applications for federal funding  
3 8 that will have its primary effect on Asian-Pacific persons in  
3 9 Iowa before development of the application. The commission  
3 10 shall advise the governor and the director of revenue and  
3 11 finance concerning any state agency request that will have its  
3 12 primary effect on Asian-Pacific persons in Iowa.

3 13 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 216A.126 ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.

3 14 The commission may:

3 15 1. Enter into contracts, within the limit of funds made  
3 16 available, with individuals, organizations, and institutions  
3 17 for services.

3 18 2. Accept grants of money or property from the federal  
3 19 government or any other source, and may upon its own order use  
3 20 this money, property, or other resources to accomplish the  
3 21 duties of the commission.

3 22 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 216A.127 EMPLOYEES AND  
3 23 RESPONSIBILITY.

3 24 The commission shall employ other necessary employees.  
3 25 Pursuant to section 216A.2, the commission shall have  
3 26 responsibility for budgetary and personnel decisions for the  
3 27 commission and division. The administrator shall carry out  
3 28 programs and policies as determined by the commission.

3 29 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 216A.128 STATE AGENCY ASSISTANCE.

3 30 On the request of the commission, state departments and  
3 31 agencies shall supply the commission with advisory staff  
3 32 services on matters relating to the jurisdiction of the  
3 33 commission. The commission shall cooperate and coordinate its  
3 34 activities with other state agencies to the highest possible  
3 35 degree.

4 1 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. 216A.129 ANNUAL REPORT.

4 2 Not later than February 1 of each year the commission shall  
4 3 file a report with the governor and the general assembly of  
4 4 its proceedings for the previous calendar year, and may submit  
4 5 with the report such recommendations pertaining to its affairs  
4 6 as the commission deems desirable, including recommendations  
4 7 for legislative consideration and other action it deems  
4 8 necessary.

4 9 Sec. 11. Section [216A.1](#), Code 1995, is amended by adding  
4 10 the following new subsection:

4 11 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. Division of Asian-Pacific persons.

4 12 Sec. 12. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. Four of the members  
4 13 appointed to the initial commission shall be designated by the  
4 14 governor to serve two-year terms, and five shall be designated  
4 15 by the governor to serve four-year terms. Succeeding  
4 16 appointments shall be for a term of four years.

4 17 EXPLANATION

4 18 This bill creates a division of Asian-Pacific persons

4 19 within the department of human rights. The commission of  
4 20 Asian-Pacific persons is also created. The commission  
4 21 consists of nine members, appointed by the governor and  
4 22 confirmed by the senate. Duties of the commission are  
4 23 specified.  
4 24 LSB 2230SC 76  
4 25 cl/jj/8.1