

**House File 2232 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2232

BY GAINES

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the commission on the status of African  
2 Americans and the office on the status of African Americans.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 216A.1, subsection 1, paragraph a,  
2 subparagraph (5), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

3 (5) Office on the status of ~~African-Americans~~ people of  
4 African descent.

5 Sec. 2. Section 216A.3, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
6 2020, is amended to read as follows:

7 a. The voting members shall consist of nine voting members  
8 selected by each of the permanent commissions within the  
9 department, and two voting members, appointed by the governor.  
10 For purposes of this paragraph "a", "*permanent commissions*"  
11 means the commission of Latino affairs, commission on the  
12 status of women, commission of persons with disabilities,  
13 commission on community action agencies, commission of deaf  
14 services, justice advisory board, commission on the status of  
15 ~~African-Americans~~ people of African descent, commission of  
16 Asian and Pacific Islander affairs, and commission of Native  
17 American affairs. The term of office for voting members is  
18 four years.

19 Sec. 3. Section 216A.132, subsection 1, paragraph b,  
20 subparagraph (8), Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

21 (8) The office on the status of ~~African-Americans~~ people of  
22 African descent.

23 Sec. 4. Section 216A.141, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2020,  
24 are amended to read as follows:

25 1. "*Commission*" means the commission on the status of  
26 ~~African-Americans~~ people of African descent.

27 2. "*Office*" means the office on the status of ~~African~~  
28 Americans people of African descent of the department of human  
29 rights.

30 Sec. 5. Section 216A.142, subsection 1, Code 2020, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 1. The commission on the status of ~~African-Americans~~ people  
33 of African descent is established and shall consist of seven  
34 members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by  
35 the senate. All members shall reside in Iowa. At least five

1 members shall be individuals who are ~~African-American~~ people  
2 of African descent.

3 Sec. 6. Section 216A.143, subsection 1, Code 2020, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 1. Study the opportunities for and changing needs of the  
6 ~~African-American~~ community of people of African descent in this  
7 state.

8 Sec. 7. Section 216A.146, Code 2020, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 **216A.146 Office on the status of ~~African-Americans~~ people of**  
11 **African descent.**

12 The office on the status of ~~African-Americans~~ people of  
13 African descent is established and shall do the following:

14 1. Serve as the central permanent agency to advocate for  
15 ~~African-Americans~~ people of African descent.

16 2. Coordinate and cooperate with the efforts of state  
17 departments and agencies to serve the needs of ~~African~~  
18 ~~Americans~~ people of African descent in participating fully  
19 in the economic, social, and cultural life of the state, and  
20 provide direct assistance to individuals who request it.

21 3. Develop, coordinate, and assist other public or private  
22 organizations which serve ~~African-Americans~~ people of African  
23 descent.

24 4. Serve as an information clearinghouse on programs  
25 and agencies operating to assist ~~African-Americans~~ people of  
26 African descent.

27

#### EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill relates to the commission on the status of African  
31 Americans and the office on the status of African Americans.  
32 The bill changes the name of the commission on the status of  
33 African Americans to the "commission on the status of people  
34 of African descent" and the name of the office on the status  
35 of African Americans to the "office on the status of people of

1 African descent". The bill also changes references to African  
2 Americans in Code chapter 216A, subchapter 10, to "people of  
3 African descent".