

9 deprive the court of jurisdiction insofar as the property owner is con-  
 10 cerned, unless a lienholder can show prejudice thereby, and in such  
 11 instances the appeal, as it affects the property owner, is legalized and  
 12 validated.

13 Any award of damages and judgment for costs, in any such pro-  
 14 ceeding, which has been set aside or vacated, by reason of the failure  
 15 of the property owner to serve notice of appeal on a lienholder within  
 16 the statutory period required under section four hundred seventy-two  
 17 point eighteen (472.18) of the Code, shall be reinstated by the court  
 18 where such award and judgment was entered after notice and hear-  
 19 ing, as prescribed by the court, and after a finding that such lienholder  
 20 will not be prejudiced thereby.

Approved April 22, 1972.

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## CHAPTER 1121

### MERGED AREA SCHOOLS

#### H. F. 1101

AN ACT to legalize and validate proceedings for the establishment, organization, formation, and changes in the boundaries of merged area school systems.

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

1 SECTION 1. All proceedings taken after January 1, 1969 and  
 2 prior to January 1, 1972, purporting to provide for the establishment,  
 3 organization, formation, and changes in the boundaries of merged  
 4 areas under the provisions of chapter two hundred eighty A (280A),  
 5 Code 1971, and not heretofore declared invalid by any court, are  
 6 legalized, validated, and confirmed.

1 SEC. 2. The foregoing shall not be construed to affect any litiga-  
 2 tion that may be pending at the time this Act becomes effective involv-  
 3 ing the establishment, organization, formation, or changes in the  
 4 boundaries of any such merged area.

Approved April 21, 1972.

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## CHAPTER 1122

### COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

#### H. F. 1140

AN ACT to establish a commission on the status of women and to define its powers and duties.

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

1 SECTION 1. **Establishment.** There is established a commission on  
 2 the status of women, hereinafter referred to as the "commission",

3 to consist of twenty-four members, appointed by the governor and  
 4 representing a cross section of the citizens of Iowa. The commission  
 5 shall be nonpartisan, and the members shall be appointed without refer-  
 6 ence to their political affiliation. The governor shall appoint one of  
 7 the members to serve as chairman.

1 **SEC. 2. Term of office.** One-half of the members appointed to the  
 2 initial commission shall be designated by the governor to serve two-  
 3 year terms, and one-half shall be designated by the governor to serve  
 4 four-year terms. Succeeding appointments shall be for a term of four  
 5 years. Vacancies in the membership shall be filled for the unexpired  
 6 term in the same manner as the original appointment.

1 **SEC. 3. Meetings of the commission.** The commission shall meet  
 2 at least four times each year, and shall hold special meetings on the  
 3 call of the chairman. Ten members shall constitute a quorum, and  
 4 the concurrence of at least thirteen members shall be necessary for  
 5 the commission to render a determination or decision. The commission  
 6 shall adopt rules and regulations as it deems necessary.

1 **SEC. 4. Objectives of commission.** The commission shall study the  
 2 changing needs and problems of the women of this state, and develop  
 3 and recommend new programs and constructive action to the gover-  
 4 nor and the general assembly, including but not limited to, the follow-  
 5 ing areas:  
 6 1. Public and private employment policies and practices.  
 7 2. Iowa labor laws.  
 8 3. Legal treatment relating to political and civil rights.  
 9 4. The family and the employed woman.  
 10 5. Expanded programs to help women as wives, mothers, and work-  
 11 ers.  
 12 6. Women as citizen volunteers.  
 13 7. Education.

1 **SEC. 5. Duties.** The commission shall:  
 2 1. Serve as a clearinghouse on programs and agencies operating to  
 3 assist women.  
 4 2. Conduct conferences.  
 5 3. Cooperate with governmental agencies to assist them in equaliz-  
 6 ing opportunities between men and women in employment and in  
 7 expanding women's rights and opportunities.  
 8 4. Serve as the central permanent agency for the development of  
 9 services for women.  
 10 5. Cooperate with public and private agencies in joint efforts to  
 11 study and resolve problems relating to the status of women.  
 12 6. Publish and disseminate information relating to women and  
 13 develop other educational programs.  
 14 7. Provide assistance to organized efforts by communities, organi-  
 15 zations, associations, and other groups working toward the improve-  
 16 ment of women's status.

1 **SEC. 6. Additional authority.** The commission may:  
 2 1. Do all things necessary, proper, and expedient in accomplishing  
 3 the duties listed in section five (5) of this Act and this section.  
 4 2. Hold hearings.

5 3. Enter into contracts, within the limit of funds made available,  
6 with individuals, organizations, and institutions for services further-  
7 ing the objectives of the commission as listed in section four (4) of  
8 this Act.

9 4. Seek advice and counsel of informed individuals, or any agricul-  
10 tural, industrial, professional, labor or trade association, or civic group  
11 in the accomplishment of the objectives of the commission.

12 5. Accept grants of money or property from the federal government  
13 or any other source, and may upon its own order use this money,  
14 property, or other resources to accomplish the objectives of the com-  
15 mission.

1 SEC. 7. Access to information. The commission shall have access  
2 to all nonconfidential records, data, information, and statistics of all  
3 departments, boards, commissions, agencies, and institutions of this  
4 state, and upon terms which may be mutually agreed upon, have  
5 studies and research conducted.

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

Approved April 19, 1972.

## CHAPTER 1123

### CITIZENS' AIDE (OMBUDSMAN)

H. F. 1291

AN ACT relating to the establishment of an office of citizens' aide, his duties, and providing penalties and making an appropriation.

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

1 SECTION 1. As used in this Act:

2 1. "Person" means an individual, aggregate of individuals, corpo-  
3 ration, partnership, or unincorporated association.

4 2. "Agency" means all governmental entities, departments, boards,  
5 commissions, councils or institutions, and any officer, employee or  
6 member thereof acting or purporting to act in the exercise of his  
7 official duties, but it does not include:

8 a. Any court or judge or appurtenant judicial staff.

9 b. The members, committees, or permanent or temporary staffs of  
10 the Iowa general assembly.

11 c. The governor of Iowa or his personal staff.

12 d. Any instrumentality formed pursuant to an interstate compact  
13 and answerable to more than one state.

14 3. "Officer" means any officer of an agency.

15 4. "Employee" means any employee of an agency.