Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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S.B. 19

130th General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Medicaid, Health and Human Services)

Sens. Tavares and Manning, Schiavoni, Brown, Turner, Kearney, Smith, Sawyer, Gentile, Skindell, Cafaro

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates in the Department of Job and Family Services the Ohio Family Stability Commission.
- Specifies the Commission's duties for each year of its four-year operation.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Ohio Family Stability Commission

The bill creates the Ohio Family Stability Commission in the Department of Job and Family Services. The Commission, which is to consist of 25 members (see "**Membership**," below), must fulfill specified duties over the course of a four-year period.[1]

First year of operation

During its first year of operation, the Commission must conduct research and formulate recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly, appropriate state agencies, and other appropriate entities concerning the following societal issues that impact the stability of families in Ohio: (1) the divorce rate and strategies for reducing the divorce rate, (2) the birth rate among unmarried individuals and strategies for reducing the number of births occurring outside of marriage, (3) the rate of domestic violence, including child abuse, and strategies for reducing the rate of domestic violence, and (4) issues concerning child custody and support. The recommendations must provide the General Assembly, appropriate state agencies, and other appropriate

[1] R.C. 5101.345(A).

entities with strategies, both legal and otherwise, for addressing the issues described above.[2]

Second year of operation

During its second year of operation, the Commission must advise the General Assembly, appropriate state agencies, and other appropriate entities on ways to implement the recommendations formulated during the Commission's first year of operation.[3]

Third year of operation

During its third year of operation, the Commission must continue to provide advice regarding implementation of the recommendations formulated during the Commission's first year of operation and must begin monitoring implementation. The Commission must issue a report to the General Assembly at the end of this year regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations.[4]

Fourth year of operation

During its fourth year of operation, the Commission must conduct activities to ensure continued implementation of the Commission's recommendations formulated during the Commission's first year of operation and, if applicable, enforcement of the recommendations. The Commission must issue a report to the General Assembly at the end of this year regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations.[5]

Termination of the Commission

The bill's provisions are repealed on the first day of the 49th month after its effective date.[6]

Membership

The Commission's membership is to consist of four members of the General Assembly and 21 persons who are government agency representatives, private citizens, or elected officials (other than General Assembly members). Of the four General

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[2] R.C. 5101.345(C)(1).

[3] R.C. 5101.345(C)(2).

[4] R.C. 5101.345(C)(3).

[5] R.C. 5101.345(C)(4).

[6] Section 2.

Assembly members, two are to be appointed by the President of the Senate from different political parties and two are to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from different political parties. The remaining 21 members are to be appointed by the Governor as follows:

--Two with expertise in out-of-wedlock births;

--Two with expertise in marital divorce;

--One with expertise in education;

--One with expertise in employment;

--One with expertise in child support;

--One with expertise in child custody;

--One with expertise in child abuse and neglect;

--One with expertise in domestic violence;

--Two with expertise in the judicial system;

--Two with expertise in criminal justice;

--Two with expertise in faith-based initiatives;

--Two with expertise in fatherhood programs;

--Two with expertise in philanthropic or nonprofit management;

--One with expertise in mass media or communications.

Commission members are to serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities and vacancies are to be filled in the manner provided for original appointments. Members are to serve without compensation, except to the extent that serving is considered part of their regular duties of employment.[7]

Staffing

The Commission is to be staffed by personnel of the Department of Job and Family Services. The bill specifies, however, that this staffing requirement does not

[7] R.C. 5101.345(A).

require the Department to employ personnel the Department otherwise would not have employed.[8]

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-12-13
Reported, S. Medicaid, Health & Human Services	03-12-13

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[8] R.C. 5101.345(B).