
COMMISSION ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION & CONFLICT MANAGEMENT (CDR)

- Repeals the Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Law.
- Abolishes the 12-member Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management and terminates the positions of Executive Director and personnel of the Commission.
- Abolishes the Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Commission Gifts, Grants, and Reimbursements Fund in the state treasury.

Repeal of Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Law

(R.C. 179.01, 179.02, 179.03, and 179.04)

Abolition of Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management

The act repeals the Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Law. It abolishes the Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management, consisting of 12 members. The purpose of the Commission under prior law was to provide, coordinate, fund, and evaluate dispute resolution and conflict management education, training, and research programs in Ohio, and to consult with, educate, train, provide resources for, and otherwise assist and facilitate other persons and public or private agencies, organizations, or entities that are engaged in activities related to dispute resolution and conflict management. The members of the Commission served without compensation, but each member was reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties and actual mileage for each mile necessarily traveled in the performance of official duties.

Among the duties of the Commission under prior law were to adopt rules to govern the application for, and the awarding of, grants made available by the Commission out of the Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Commission Gifts, Grants, and Reimbursements Fund (see below); to apply for grants to provide for the operation of dispute resolution and conflict management programs (see definition below; hereafter "DRCM programs") and adopt standards for the evaluation of funded DRCM programs; and to provide technical aid and assistance to DRCM programs and to public and private agencies and organizations that provided these programs or engaged in dispute resolution and conflict management services.



Abolition of Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Commission Gifts, Grants, and Reimbursements Fund

The act abolishes the Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management Commission Gifts, Grants, and Reimbursements Fund formerly established in the state treasury. All donations, grants, awards, bequests, gifts, reimbursements, and similar funds received by the Commission were deposited in the Fund under prior law.

Termination of Commission's Executive Director and other personnel positions

The act terminates the positions of Executive Director appointed by the Commission and all personnel appointed by the Executive Director. Prior law required the Executive Director to appoint and set the compensation of personnel necessary for the efficient operation of the Commission office, to maintain financial records pertaining to the awarding of grants and contracts, and to report to the Commission on all relevant data pertaining to the operations, costs, and projected needs of the Commission office and on recommendations for legislation or amendments to court rules that may be appropriate to improve DRCM programs.

Definitions under prior law

Prior law defined the following:

"Dispute resolution and conflict management" included any process that assists persons with a dispute or a conflict to resolve their differences without further litigation, prosecution, civil unrest, economic disruption, or violence.

"Dispute resolution and conflict management program" meant any or both of the following:

(1) A program that provided or encouraged dispute resolution and conflict management, including, but not limited to, a program that provided or encouraged mediation or conciliation, a mini-trial program, a summary jury trial, or nonbinding arbitration. The program could serve the legal community, business community, public sector, private sector, or private individuals, or any combination of them, and its scope could include disputes and conflicts in the domestic context, international context, or both.

(2) A program that provided education or training, in the primary and secondary schools and colleges and universities of Ohio and in other appropriate educational forums, about the elimination, prevention, resolution, and management of disputes and conflicts in the domestic and international context.

