

1 HB334  
2 119620-2  
3 By Representatives McClurkin, Coleman, Moore (P), Drake,  
4 Kennedy and Ison  
5 RFD: Government Appropriations  
6 First Read: 19-JAN-10



1 the same are established on September 20, 1971, and two  
2 members shall be appointed from the state-at-large. At least  
3 seven of the members appointed by the Governor shall be women.  
4 The five members representing the Legislature shall be  
5 appointed for terms of two years, and their successors shall  
6 be appointed for terms of two years. Of those members  
7 appointed by the Governor, five members shall be appointed for  
8 terms of five years, and five members shall be appointed for  
9 terms of three years, and the successors to such 10 appointees  
10 shall serve for terms of ~~three~~ five years.

11 "Members shall be selected on the basis of their  
12 interests and knowledge in, and their ability to make  
13 contributions to, the solutions of problems related to the  
14 status of women.

15 "The commission shall report to the Governor and the  
16 Legislature.

17 "Vacancies on the commission shall be filled by  
18 appointment in the same manner provided for the appointment of  
19 the initial members. Any appointment to replace a member whose  
20 position becomes vacant prior to the expiration of the term  
21 shall be filled only for the remainder of the term.

22 "Members of the commission shall receive no  
23 compensation for their services, except that they may be  
24 reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incident to  
25 their duties as members of the commission, in accordance with  
26 state law.

1           "§41-9-411.

2           "The commission shall hold an organizational session  
3 at which time the commission shall select a chairman and such  
4 other officers from its membership as it deems necessary. The  
5 commission shall at its organizational session adopt such  
6 procedures and rules that will enable the implementation of  
7 the purposes of the commission. It shall have the  
8 responsibility of appointing such committees and task forces  
9 as they deem necessary. ~~Members of such committees shall serve~~  
10 ~~without compensation. It shall be provided with office space~~  
11 ~~and necessary office equipment. It may engage employees and~~  
12 ~~consultants, hold public hearings and generate other~~  
13 ~~activities as may be needed to realize the purposes of the~~  
14 ~~commission.~~

15           "§41-9-413.

16           ~~"The commission shall be a continuing vehicle for~~  
17 ~~the determination of effective policy and legislation in the~~  
18 ~~areas which will affect Alabama's women. It shall study the~~  
19 ~~status of women in this state and make recommendations to the~~  
20 ~~Governor and Legislature for constructive action in the~~  
21 ~~following areas:~~

22           ~~"(1) Public and private employment policies and~~  
23 ~~practices;~~

24           ~~"(2) Labor laws dealing with hours, wages and~~  
25 ~~working conditions;~~

26           ~~"(3) Legal rights and responsibilities;~~

1                   ~~"(4) Policies and practices with regard to~~  
2 ~~education, counseling and job training,~~

3                   ~~"(5) Citizen volunteers; and~~

4                   ~~"(6) Home and community.~~

5                   "The purpose of the commission is to improve and  
6 advance the lives of women in the State of Alabama. The  
7 commission may study, make recommendations, educate, and  
8 promote constructive action on issues related to women which  
9 shall include, but not be limited to, economic development,  
10 education, employment, health, legal rights, political  
11 participation, and the quality of individual and family life.  
12 The areas of responsibility may include any or all of the  
13 following:

14                   "(1) To create public awareness and understanding of  
15 the responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions of  
16 women and their roles in the changing society.

17                   "(2) To research, assemble, analyze, and disseminate  
18 pertinent data and educational materials relating to  
19 activities and programs which will assist in meeting the needs  
20 of women.

21                   "(3) To institute, conduct, and/or support  
22 educational and other programs, meetings, conferences,  
23 hearings, forums, and discussion groups to address matters of  
24 concern to the women of the state.

1           "(4) To advise and make recommendations to the  
2 Governor and to the Legislature on issues, policies, and  
3 programs relating to women.

4           "(5) To evaluate and monitor legislation pending in  
5 the Legislature on issues relating to women and make  
6 recommendations concerning such legislation to the Governor  
7 and the Legislature.

8           "(6) To maintain contact and collaborate with the  
9 appropriate federal, state, local, and international agencies  
10 concerned with the status of women.

11           "(7) To perform such other functions and duties as  
12 imposed upon it by law or as are assigned to it by the  
13 Governor or the Legislature, or both."

14           Section 2. Sections 41-9-415 and 41-9-416 are hereby  
15 added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

16           §41-9-415.

17           (a) The commission may employ an executive director,  
18 who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission and who  
19 shall be responsible directly to the commission. The  
20 commission shall determine the compensation of the executive  
21 director which shall be paid from the funds of the commission.  
22 The commission shall designate the duties and responsibilities  
23 of the executive director.

24           (b) The commission may employ administrative  
25 employees, consultants, research assistants, and other  
26 supervisory and professional personnel as may be necessary or

1       advisable for carrying out in the most efficient and  
2       beneficial manner the purposes and provisions of this article.  
3       The commission may offer to its employees any benefits offered  
4       to employes of the State of Alabama, including retirement,  
5       medical and dental care, and workers' compensation plans.

6                 §41-9-416.

7                 (a) The commission shall administer funds allocated  
8       for its work and be authorized to accept, disburse, and  
9       allocate any funds that may become available from other  
10      governmental and private sources, provided that all such funds  
11      shall be disbursed or allocated in compliance with any  
12      specific designation stated by the donor. In the absence of  
13      such specific designation, the funds shall be disbursed or  
14      allocated on projects related to any of the purposes of the  
15      commission.

16                (b) The commission may impose user fees on  
17      participants in its programs, services, or activities. Fees  
18      shall not exceed the reasonable cost of administering the  
19      programs, services, or activities. The commission or the  
20      executive director may waive the user fee if the waiver would  
21      promote the purpose of the commission or the participant is  
22      unable to pay the user fee.

23                (c) All user fees collected, sponsorships, direct  
24      appropriations, and other funds received shall be deposited  
25      into a special fund in the State Treasury to be known as the  
26      Women's Commission Fund. The commission may make deposits and

1 expenditures from such special fund to administer and  
2 implement the purposes of this article, including, but not  
3 limited to, expenditures for expenses, meals and receptions,  
4 awards, and promotional items. All revenue remaining in the  
5 special fund at the end of the fiscal year shall carry over to  
6 the next fiscal year and shall not revert to the State General  
7 Fund or any other fund. Such funds shall be appropriated,  
8 budgeted and allotted in accordance with Sections 41-4-80 to  
9 41-4-96, inclusive and 41-19-1 to 41-19-12, inclusive and only  
10 in amounts stipulated in general appropriations bills and  
11 other appropriations bills.

12 (d) All contributions and gifts of money and  
13 property made to the commission shall be exempt from all  
14 taxation in the state. All real and personal property, money,  
15 income, resources, and activities of the commission shall be  
16 exempt from all taxation in the state.

17 (e) The commission may award research grants in  
18 accordance with state law and subject to budget  
19 appropriations.

20 (f) The commission shall maintain accurate records  
21 and books of account covering revenue and expenditures, which  
22 shall be subject to audit by the Department of Examiners of  
23 Public Accounts.

24 (g) The commission shall be provided with office  
25 space and necessary office equipment.



1                   Section 3. This act shall become effective  
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-  
ferred to the House of Representa-  
tives committee on Government Ap-  
propriations ..... 19-JAN-10

Read for the second time and placed  
on the calendar with 1 substitute  
and ..... 03-MAR-10

Read for the third time and passed  
as amended ..... 11-MAR-10

Yeas 95, Nays 0, Abstains 0

Greg Pappas  
Clerk