

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 139

Introduced by Avery, 28.

Read first time January 09, 2009

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Commission on Mexican-Americans;
2 to amend sections 81-8,262, 81-8,265, 81-8,270, and
3 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska;
4 to rename the commission and a fund; to harmonize
5 provisions; and to repeal the original sections.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 81-8,262, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 81-8,262 There is hereby created the Commission on
4 ~~Mexican-Americans hereinafter referred to as the commission.~~
5 Hispanic-Americans. For purposes of sections 81-8,262 to
6 81-8,271.01, commission means the Commission on Hispanic-Americans.

7 Sec. 2. Section 81-8,265, Reissue Revised Statutes of
8 Nebraska, is amended to read:

9 81-8,265 The functions of the commission shall be to:

10 (1) Gather and disseminate information and conduct
11 hearings, conferences, and special studies on problems and programs
12 concerning ~~Mexican-Americans,~~ Hispanic-Americans;

13 (2) Serve the needs of ~~Mexican-Americans,~~
14 Hispanic-Americans, especially in the fields of education,
15 employment, health, housing, welfare, and recreation by offering
16 such services as it may establish for the translation of documents
17 and for the direct assistance of clients, exclusive of legal
18 representation, in matters relating to any federal department or
19 agency or any department or agency of the state or a political
20 subdivision thereof;

21 (3) Develop, coordinate, and assist public and private
22 organizations and coordinate and assist the efforts of state
23 departments and agencies to serve the needs of ~~Mexican-Americans,~~
24 Hispanic-Americans;

25 (4) Propose new programs concerning ~~Mexican-Americans,~~

1 Hispanic-Americans;

2 (5) Evaluate existing programs and proposed legislation
3 concerning ~~Mexican-Americans~~, Hispanic-Americans;

4 (6) Stimulate public awareness of the problems of
5 ~~Mexican-Americans~~ Hispanic-Americans by conducting a program of
6 public education and encourage the Governor and the Legislature to
7 develop programs to deal with these problems; and

8 (7) Conduct training programs for community leadership
9 and service project staff.

10 Sec. 3. Section 81-8,270, Reissue Revised Statutes of
11 Nebraska, is amended to read:

12 81-8,270 The director may employ any subordinate
13 personnel necessary to assist him or her in the performance of his
14 or her duties, including clerical staff and technical advisors. The
15 director may employ assistant directors if necessary to develop,
16 assist, and cooperate with local commissions on ~~Mexican-Americans~~.
17 Hispanic-Americans.

18 Sec. 4. Section 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of
19 Nebraska, is amended to read:

20 81-8,271.01 The Commission on ~~Mexican-Americans~~
21 Hispanic-Americans Cash Fund is created. The Commission on
22 ~~Mexican-Americans~~ Hispanic-Americans shall use the fund for
23 commission functions described in sections 81-8,262 to 81-8,271.
24 Money credited to the fund shall include any monetary gifts,
25 grants, and donations. Any money in the fund available for

1 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer
2 pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
3 State Funds Investment Act. Any money remaining in the Commission
4 on Mexican-Americans Cash Fund on the effective date of this act
5 shall be transferred to the Commission on Hispanic-Americans Cash
6 Fund on such date.

7 Sec. 5. Original sections 81-8,262, 81-8,265, 81-8,270,
8 and 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are
9 repealed.