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OFFICE OF WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1991

— ● —

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2804

(By Mr. Delegates Brown and Cerra)

— ● —

Passed March 9, 1991

In Effect From Passage

ENROLLED
H. B. 2809

(By DELEGATES BROWN AND CERRA)

[Passed March 9, 1991; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections one, two, three, four and six, article twenty, chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the women's commission; continuation within the department of health and human resources; composition of ex officio commission members; continuation of commission; powers and duties; commission administrative personnel; power to accept funds; and annual report.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections one, two, three, four and six, article twenty, chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 20. WOMEN'S COMMISSION.

§29-20-1. Continuation; membership; appointment and terms of members; organization; reimbursement for expenses.

1 The West Virginia commission on the status of women
2 is hereby abolished, and there is hereby continued
3 within the department of health and human resources
4 the West Virginia women's commission, to consist of
5 eighteen members, seven of whom shall be ex officio

6 members, not entitled to vote: The attorney general, the
7 state superintendent of schools, the commissioner of
8 labor, the commissioner of the bureau of human
9 resources of the department of health and human
10 resources, the director of the human rights commission,
11 the director of the division of personnel, and the
12 chancellor of the board of directors of the state college
13 system. Each ex officio member may designate one
14 representative employed by his or her department to
15 meet with the commission in his or her absence. The
16 governor shall appoint the additional eleven members,
17 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from
18 among the citizens of the state. The governor shall
19 designate the chairman and vice chairman of the
20 commission and the commission may elect such other
21 officers as it deems necessary. The members shall serve
22 a term beginning the first day of July, one thousand nine
23 hundred seventy-seven, three to serve for a term of one
24 year, four to serve for a term of two years, and the
25 remaining four to serve for a term of three years. The
26 successors of the members initially appointed as
27 provided herein shall be appointed for a term of three
28 years each in the same manner as the members initially
29 appointed under this article, except that any person
30 appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the
31 expiration of the term for which his or her predecessor
32 was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of
33 such term. Each member shall serve until the appoint-
34 ment and qualification of his or her successor.

35 No member may receive any salary for his or her
36 services, but each may be reimbursed for actual and
37 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his
38 or her duties out of funds received by the commission
39 under section four of this article, except that in the event
40 the expenses are paid, or are to be paid, by a third party,
41 the members shall not be reimbursed by the
42 commission.

43 Pursuant to the provisions of section four, article ten,
44 chapter four of this code, the West Virginia women's
45 commission shall continue to exist until the first day of
46 July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-two, to allow for

47 the completion of an audit by the joint committee on
48 government operations.

§29-20-2. Powers and duties of commission.

1 It is the duty of the commission:

2 (a) To review and study the status of women in this
3 state;

4 (b) To recommend methods of overcoming discrimina-
5 tion against women in public and private employment
6 and in the exercise of their civil and political rights;

7 (c) To promote more effective methods for enabling
8 women to develop their skills, to continue their educa-
9 tion and to be retrained;

10 (d) To strengthen home life by directing attention to
11 critical problems confronting women as wives, mothers,
12 homemakers and workers;

13 (e) To make surveys in the fields of, but not limited
14 to, education, social services, labor laws and employ-
15 ment policies, law enforcement, health, new and
16 expanded services of benefit to women, legal rights,
17 family relations and volunteer services;

18 (f) To secure appropriate recognition of women's
19 accomplishments and contributions to this state;

20 (g) To disseminate information for the purpose of
21 educating the public as to the existence and functions
22 of the commission and as to matters of general beneficial
23 interest to women; and

24 (h) To advise, consult and cooperate with other offices
25 of the department of health and human resources and
26 other agencies of state government, and to receive
27 assistance therefrom, in the development of activities
28 and programs of beneficial interest to women and on
29 matters relating generally to women.

§29-20-3. Commission administrative personnel.

1 The commission may, consistent with state personnel
2 procedures and with the approval of the secretary of the
3 department of health and human resources or his or her

4 designee, appoint an executive director, who shall act as
5 the chief administrative officer of the commission, in
6 addition to such other duties as he or she may be
7 assigned. The commission may also, consistent with
8 state personnel procedures and with the approval of the
9 secretary of the department of health and human
10 resources or his or her designee, appoint such other
11 personnel as may be deemed necessary to accomplish its
12 objectives. All persons so employed shall be paid from
13 funds received by the department of health and human
14 resources or the commission under section four of this
15 article.

§29-20-4. Power of commission to accept funds.

1 The commission, or the department of health and
2 human resources on behalf of the commission, may
3 accept gifts, grants and bequests of funds from individ-
4 uals, foundations, corporations, the federal government,
5 governmental agencies and other organizations or
6 institutions; make and sign any agreements and do and
7 perform any acts that may be necessary to carry out the
8 purposes of this article.

§29-20-6. Annual report.

1 The commission shall, with the approval of the
2 secretary of the department of health and human
3 resources or his or her designee, submit an annual
4 report to the Legislature and the governor, including
5 recommendations based on its studies.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Thomas Leek
Chairman Senate Committee

Ernest E. Madie
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Harrell E. Helms
Clerk of the Senate

Donald L. Hoop
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Keith Brundage
President of the Senate

Don C. Clark
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within *is approved*, this the *27th*
day of *March*, 1991.

Gaston Caperton
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 3/20/91

Time 4:45 PM