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A N A C T

C R E A T I N G A L E G I S L A T I V E C O M M I S S I O N
O N V O L U N T E E R I S M A N D C I T I Z E N P A R T I C I P A T I O N
A N D M A K I N G A N A P P R O P R I A T I O N T H E R E F O R

Introduced By: Representatives Assalone, Donnally, Kilmarx and Durfee

Date Introduced: March 11, 1980

Referred To: House Committee on Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 22 of the General Laws entitled "General
2 Assembly" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chap-
3 ter:

4 CHAPTER 15

5 PERMANENT COMMISSION ON VOLUNTEERISM

6 AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

7 22-15-1. Permanent Commission - Composition. -- There is
8 hereby created a permanent commission on volunteerism and citizen
9 participation consisting of nine (9) members: five (5) of whom
10 shall be from the house of representatives, not more than four
11 (4) from the same political party to be appointed by the speaker;
12 four (4) of whom shall be representative of the general public to
13 be appointed by the governor from the existing membership of that

1 commission created by 79-H 6265 and which is entitled "Resolution
2 Creating a Special Legislative Commission to Study the Feasi-
3 bility of Establishing an Office on Citizen Participation Within
4 the Legislative Branch of State Government and Making an Appro-
5 priation Therefor." Vacancies which shall arise in said public
6 membership shall be appointed on a rotating basis by the speaker
7 and the senate majority leader. Vacancies in the legislative
8 membership shall be appointed by the speaker.

9 Forthwith upon passage of this act, the members of this com-
10 mission shall meet at the call of the speaker of the house and
11 organize and shall select from among themselves a chairman.

12 22-15-2. Purpose. -- The purpose of said commission shall
13 include utilization of volunteerism and citizen participation
14 including, but not limited, to:

15 (a) encouraging a closer working relationship between the
16 state government and citizenry by promoting volunteerism through-
17 out the state;

18 (b) creating a more meaningful experience for volunteers;

19 (c) enhancing the quality of life for all the citizens
20 within the state through the use of volunteerism and citizen
21 participation.

22 22-15-3. Compensation - Departmental Cooperation. -- The
23 membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for
24 their services, but shall be allowed their travel and necessary
25 expenses. The commission may engage such clerical, technical and
26 other assistance as it may deem necessary, and spend such other
27 funds as is necessary to accomplish its purpose.

28 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such
29 advice and information, documentary and otherwise, to said com-
30 mission and its agents as is deemed necessary or desirable by the
31 commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

32 The director of administration is hereby authorized and
33 directed to provide suitable quarters for said commission.

1 22-15-4. Report. -- The commission shall report its find-
2 ings and recommendations to the general assembly annually.

3 SECTION 2. The sum of thirty-eight thousand dollars
4 (\$38,000.) is hereby appropriated, out of any money in treasury,
5 not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the purposes of this act
6 and for the purpose of employing such staff and purchasing such
7 materials as the commission deems necessary; and the state con-
8 troller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon
9 the general treasurer for the payment of such sum, or so much
10 thereof as may be deemed necessary from time to time, upon
11 receipt by him of properly authenticated vouchers.

12 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

JJ205

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
AN ACT
CREATING A LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
ON VOLUNTEERISM AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR

1 This act creates a nine (9) member permanent legislative
2 commission whose purpose it shall be to utilize volunteers and
3 citizen participation in government and who shall report to the
4 legislature annually; there is \$38,000. appropriated for the pur-
5 poses of this act.

6 The act is effective upon passage.

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