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P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 201, *approved January 2, 2004*
Assembly, No. 2491 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the New Jersey Human Relations ¹**[Commission]**
2 **Council**¹ and amending P.L.1997, c.257.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.257 (C. 52:9DD-8) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. a. There is hereby created the New Jersey Human Relations
10 Council, referred to hereinafter as the council, which shall promote
11 prejudice reduction education and address the problem of bias and
12 violent acts based on the victim's race, color, religion, national origin,
13 ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or disability. The council shall be
14 a permanent, independent body in but not of the Department of Law
15 and Public Safety.

16 b. The council shall consist of an executive committee which shall
17 include ten public members who shall be representative of the various
18 ethnic; religious; national origin; racial; sexual orientation; gender;
19 and disabilities organizations in this State, of whom four shall be
20 appointed by the Governor, no more than two of whom shall be of the
21 same political party; three shall be appointed by the President of the
22 Senate, no more than two of whom shall be of the same political party;
23 and three shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly,
24 no more than two of whom shall be of the same political party; two
25 members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, no
26 more than one of whom shall be of the same political party; two
27 members of the General Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the
28 General Assembly, no more than one of whom shall be of the same
29 political party; seven representatives from county human relations
30 commissions representing the diversity of all county human relations
31 commissions from the 21 counties of the State appointed by the
32 Governor; and the following ex officio members: the Attorney General
33 of the State of New Jersey; the Secretary of State; Commissioner of
34 the Department of Education; the Commissioner of the Department of
35 Community Affairs; the Commissioner of the Department of
36 Corrections; the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services;
37 the Public Defender; the Director of the Administrative Office of the
38 Courts; the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice; the
39 Superintendent of the Division of State Police; the Director of the
40 Division on Civil Rights; the President of the County Prosecutors

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ASG committee amendments adopted December 9, 2002.

1 Association of New Jersey; the President of the New Jersey State
2 Association of Chiefs of Police; the President of the Bias Crime
3 Officers Association of New Jersey; a county Superintendent of
4 Schools selected by the Commissioner of the Department of
5 Education; the President of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
6 Association; and the President of the New Jersey Education
7 Association.

8 c. Of the public members first appointed to the council, six shall be
9 appointed for a term of three years, two shall be appointed for terms
10 of two years and two shall be appointed for a term of one year. The
11 seven county human relations commissions representatives shall be
12 appointed for terms of two years. The legislative members appointed
13 initially under this act shall serve until the end of the legislative session
14 in which the appointment is made. Thereafter, the legislative members
15 shall be appointed for two-year terms to coincide with the two-year
16 legislative term in which they serve on the council. Thereafter, the
17 public members shall be appointed for terms of three years. Vacancies
18 on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the original
19 appointment but for the unexpired term. A chairperson and vice-
20 chairperson shall be selected from among the public members of the
21 council and the representatives from the county human relations
22 commissions. The council shall have the authority to establish
23 subcommittees as it deems appropriate and pursuant to this act. The
24 **[public members]** executive committee of the council shall adopt
25 bylaws to govern the council and elect officers from among the
26 **[public]** council members as it deems appropriate and pursuant to this
27 act.

28 d. Each ex officio member may designate a person from the
29 member's department or agency to represent the member at hearings
30 of the council. All designees may lawfully vote and otherwise act on
31 behalf of the member for whom they constitute the designee.

32 (cf: P.L.1997, c.257, s.1)

33

34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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37

38

39 _____
Modifies governance of Human Relations Council.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2491

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 17, 2002

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Greenstein and Assemblyman Johnson

SYNOPSIS

Modifies governance of Human Relations Council.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/8/2002)

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Human Relations Commission and
2 amending P.L.1997, c.257.

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15 and Public Safety.

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17 include ten public members who shall be representative of the various
18 ethnic; religious; national origin; racial; sexual orientation; gender;
19 and disabilities organizations in this State, of whom four shall be
20 appointed by the Governor, no more than two of whom shall be of the
21 same political party; three shall be appointed by the President of the
22 Senate, no more than two of whom shall be of the same political party;
23 and three shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly,
24 no more than two of whom shall be of the same political party; two
25 members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, no
26 more than one of whom shall be of the same political party; two
27 members of the General Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the
28 General Assembly, no more than one of whom shall be of the same
29 political party; seven representatives from county human relations
30 commissions representing the diversity of all county human relations
31 commissions from the 21 counties of the State appointed by the
32 Governor; and the following ex officio members: the Attorney General
33 of the State of New Jersey; the Secretary of State; Commissioner of
34 the Department of Education; the Commissioner of the Department of
35 Community Affairs; the Commissioner of the Department of
36 Corrections; the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services;
37 the Public Defender; the Director of the Administrative Office of the
38 Courts; the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice; the
39 Superintendent of the Division of State Police; the Director of the
40 Division on Civil Rights; the President of the County Prosecutors
41 Association of New Jersey; the President of the New Jersey State
42 Association of Chiefs of Police; the President of the Bias Crime
43 Officers Association of New Jersey; a county Superintendent of

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

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2 Education; the President of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
3 Association; and the President of the New Jersey Education
4 Association.

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6 appointed for a term of three years, two shall be appointed for terms
7 of two years and two shall be appointed for a term of one year. The
8 seven county human relations commissions representatives shall be
9 appointed for terms of two years. The legislative members appointed
10 initially under this act shall serve until the end of the legislative session
11 in which the appointment is made. Thereafter, the legislative members
12 shall be appointed for two-year terms to coincide with the two-year
13 legislative term in which they serve on the council. Thereafter, the
14 public members shall be appointed for terms of three years. Vacancies
15 on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the original
16 appointment but for the unexpired term. A chairperson and vice-
17 chairperson shall be selected from among the public members of the
18 council and the representatives from the county human relations
19 commissions. The council shall have the authority to establish
20 subcommittees as it deems appropriate and pursuant to this act. The
21 [public members] executive committee of the council shall adopt
22 bylaws to govern the council and elect officers from among the
23 [public] council members as it deems appropriate and pursuant to this
24 act.

25 d. Each ex officio member may designate a person from the
26 member's department or agency to represent the member at hearings
27 of the council. All designees may lawfully vote and otherwise act on
28 behalf of the member for whom they constitute the designee.

29 (cf: P.L.1997, c.257, s.1)

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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

32

33

34

STATEMENT

35

36 This bill would expand the New Jersey Human Rights Council
37 (NJHRC) to include the Secretary of the State, serving ex officio.
38 The Secretary of State would offer his expertise to assist the NJHRC
39 in achieving its goals of eliminating prejudice and biased and violent
40 acts based on a victim's race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity,
41 sexual orientation, gender or disability.

42 The bill would also modify the governance of the NJHRC.
43 Currently, a chairperson is elected from among the public members
44 and the public members of the council adopt the bylaws that govern
45 the NJHRC. The bill provides for a chairperson and a vice-
46 chairperson to be elected from among the public members and the

A2491 WISNIEWSKI, WEINBERG

4

1 representatives from the county human relations commissions who
2 serve on the council. Any other officer would be elected from among
3 all the council members. In addition, all officers would be elected by
4 the executive committee, which would also adopt the bylaws that
5 govern the NJHRC. The executive committee includes the entire body
6 of the council. These changes would include more members in the
7 governance of the NJHRC.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2491

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 9, 2002

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly, No. 2491.

This bill, as amended, adds the Secretary of the State, serving ex officio, to the membership of the New Jersey Human Rights Council (NJHRC). The NJHRC was created in 1997 to promote education to reduce prejudice and to address the problems of bias and violent acts based on a victim's race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or disability. The council now consists of 10 public members, four legislative members, seven representatives from the county human relations commissions and 16 ex officio members.

Currently, a chairperson and any other officers are elected from among the public members, who also adopt the bylaws that govern the NJHRC. The bill provides that a chairperson and a vice-chairperson will be elected from among the public members and the representatives from the county human relations commissions who serve on the council. In addition, the bill provides that any other officers will be elected from among all council members and that the executive committee, which includes the entire body of the council, will adopt the bylaws.

Assembly, No. 2491 is the same as Senate, No. 423 of 2002.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the title of the bill to refer correctly to the New Jersey Human Relations Council, not the New Jersey Human Relations Commission.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2491

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 2003

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly, No. 2491 (1R).

This bill, adds the Secretary of the State, serving ex officio, to the membership of the New Jersey Human Relations Council (NJHRC). The NJHRC was created in 1997 to promote education to reduce prejudice and to address the problems of bias and violent acts based on a victim's race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or disability. The council now consists of 10 public members, four legislative members, seven representatives from the county human relations commissions and 16 ex officio members.

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This bill is identical to Senate No. 423(1R)

SENATE, No. 423

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2002 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator WAYNE R. BRYANT

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Modifies the governance of the Human Relations Council.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



S423 BRYANT

2

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36 Corrections; the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services;
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38 Courts; the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice; the
39 Superintendent of the Division of State Police; the Director of the
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S423 BRYANT

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7 governance of the NJHRC.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 423

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 2003

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments, Senate, No. 423.

This bill, as amended, adds the Secretary of the State, serving ex officio, to the membership of the New Jersey Human Relations Council (NJHRC) and modifies the governance of the council. The council now consists of 10 public members, four legislative members, seven representatives from the county human relations commissions and 16 ex officio members.

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This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 2002-2003 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

As amended, the bill is identical to Assembly, No. 2491 (1R).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to amend its title to refer correctly to the New Jersey Human Relations Council, not the New Jersey Human Relations Commission.