



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Amendment

LCO No. 7002

HB0665707002HDO

Offered by:

REP. GONZALEZ, 3rd Dist.

REP. MARTINEZ, 128th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6657

File No. 479

Cal. No. 320

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE LATINO AND PUERTO RICAN
AFFAIRS COMMISSION AND THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
COMMISSION."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 2-120 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

5 (a) There is established a Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs
6 Commission. The initial appointees shall include all members of the
7 Governor's Council for Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs established by
8 Executive Order No. Ten of Governor Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. The terms
9 of such initial appointees shall expire on January 31, 1995.

10 (b) On and after February 1, 1995, the commission shall consist of
11 thirteen members, appointed as follows: (1) Three by the Governor,
12 one of whom shall serve for a term of one year from said February first

13 and have expertise in the field of education, one of whom shall serve
14 for a term of two years from said February first and have expertise in
15 the field of human services, and one of whom shall serve for a term of
16 three years from said February first and have expertise in the fields of
17 small business and economic development, and each of whom
18 thereafter shall serve for terms of three years from February first in the
19 year of their appointment and have expertise in the field of the
20 member's predecessor; (2) two by the president pro tempore of the
21 Senate, one of whom shall have expertise in the field of children and
22 youth development and one of whom shall have expertise in the field
23 of health; (3) one by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be a
24 member of the public; (4) two by the minority leader of the Senate, one
25 of whom shall have expertise in the field of environment and one of
26 whom shall have expertise in the field of arts and culture; (5) two by
27 the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall have
28 expertise in the field of housing and one of whom shall have expertise
29 in the field of public safety; (6) one by the majority leader of the House
30 of Representatives, who shall be a member of the public; and (7) two
31 by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom
32 shall have expertise in the field of transportation and one of whom
33 shall be a member of the public. All members appointed under this
34 subsection shall have experience in the field of Latino and Puerto
35 Rican affairs. All members appointed under subdivision (2), (3), (4),
36 (5), (6) or (7) of this subsection shall serve for terms of two years from
37 February first in the year of their appointment. The commission shall
38 elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members.
39 Any person absent from (A) three consecutive meetings of the
40 commission, or (B) fifty per cent of such meetings during any calendar
41 year shall be deemed to have resigned from the commission, effective
42 immediately. Vacancies on the commission shall be filled by the
43 appointing authority. Members of the commission shall serve without
44 compensation but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
45 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
46 their duties. The commission shall meet as often as deemed necessary
47 by the chairperson or a majority of the commission.

48 (c) The commission shall:

49 (1) Review and comment on any proposed state legislation and
50 regulations that would affect the Latino and Puerto Rican populations
51 in the state and provide to the members of the General Assembly
52 copies of any such comments;

53 (2) Advise and provide information to the Governor and the
54 General Assembly on the state's policies concerning the Latino and
55 Puerto Rican communities;

56 (3) Advise the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the
57 coordination and administration of state programs serving the Latino
58 and Puerto Rican populations;

59 (4) Maintain a liaison between the Latino and Puerto Rican
60 communities and governmental entities, including, but not limited to,
61 the General Assembly;

62 (5) Encourage Latino and Puerto Rican representation at all levels of
63 state government, including state boards and commissions, and
64 maintain an accessible list of prospective appointees who are members
65 of the Latino or Puerto Rican community;

66 (6) Secure appropriate recognition of the accomplishments and
67 contributions of Latino and Puerto Rican populations of the state;
68 [and]

69 (7) Work in partnership with members of the General Assembly for
70 the purpose of establishing an annual plan of short-term and long-term
71 initiatives based on the needs of the Latino and Puerto Rican
72 community; and

73 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) Prepare and submit to the Governor an annual report
74 concerning its activities with any appropriate recommendations
75 concerning the Latino and Puerto Rican populations of the state and
76 submit a copy of the report to the joint committee of the General

77 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to legislative
78 management, which committee shall distribute a copy of the report to
79 each member of the General Assembly.

80 (d) Any report required to be submitted to the General Assembly
81 under subsection (c) of this section shall be submitted not later than
82 January first, annually, in accordance with section 11-4a.

83 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The commission may use such funds as may be available
84 from federal, state or other sources and may enter into contracts to
85 carry out the purposes of this section.

86 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) The commission may, subject to the provisions of chapter 67,
87 employ any necessary staff within available appropriations.

88 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) On and after February 1, 1995, the commission shall be part
89 of the Legislative Department."

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2003