



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2011

LCO No. 5728

SB0123905728SR0

Offered by:
SEN. KANE, 32nd Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 1239

File No.

Cal. No.

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM
ENDING JUNE 30, 2013."**

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- 1 Strike lines T24 to T55, inclusive, in their entirety
- 2 In line T745, adjust TOTAL - GENERAL FUND for each annual
3 period accordingly
- 4 In line T758, adjust NET - GENERAL FUND for each annual period
5 accordingly
- 6 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
7 internal references accordingly:
- 8 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) There is established a
9 Bosnian Affairs Commission. The commission shall consist of twenty-
10 one members.
- 11 (1) With respect to members appointed prior to October 5, 2011,
12 upon the occurrence of a vacancy or the expiration of the term of a
13 member, whichever occurs first, such vacancy shall be filled as follows:

14 (A) If the Governor appointed the member, such vacancy shall be filled
15 by a joint appointment of the president pro tempore of the Senate and
16 the speaker of the House of Representatives; (B) if the president pro
17 tempore of the Senate appointed the member, such vacancy shall be
18 filled by an appointment of the president pro tempore of the Senate;
19 (C) if the majority leader of the Senate appointed the member, such
20 vacancy shall be filled by an appointment of the majority leader of the
21 Senate; (D) if the minority leader of the Senate appointed the member,
22 such vacancy shall be filled by an appointment of the minority leader
23 of the Senate; (E) if the speaker of the House of Representatives
24 appointed the member, such vacancy shall be filled by an appointment
25 of the speaker of the House of Representatives; (F) if the majority
26 leader of the House of Representatives appointed the member, such
27 vacancy shall be filled by an appointment of the majority leader of the
28 House of Representatives; and (G) if the minority leader of the House
29 of Representatives appointed the member, such vacancy shall be filled
30 by an appointment of the minority leader of the House of
31 Representatives.

32 (2) On or after October 5, 2011, eight additional members shall be
33 appointed as follows: (A) The president pro tempore of the Senate
34 shall appoint one member from Windham County; (B) the majority
35 leader of the Senate shall appoint two members, one from New Haven
36 County and one from Litchfield County; (C) the minority leader of the
37 Senate shall appoint one member from Fairfield County; (D) the
38 speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member
39 from Middlesex County; (E) the majority leader of the House of
40 Representatives shall appoint two members, one from Tolland County
41 and one from Hartford County; and (F) the minority leader of the
42 House of Representatives shall appoint one member from New
43 London County. In the event of a vacancy for any member appointed
44 pursuant to this subdivision, such vacancy shall be filled by the
45 appointing authority and such appointed member shall be from the
46 respective county.

47 (3) Any member appointed on or after October 5, 2011, shall have

48 experience in the field of Bosnian American affairs by virtue of such
49 person's status as an advocate or an academic, civic or cultural leader.

50 (4) Any member appointed pursuant to this subsection shall serve
51 for a term of two years from July first in the year of his or her
52 appointment, except that the term of any member appointed pursuant
53 to this subsection during the period from January 1, 2012, to June 30,
54 2012, inclusive, shall begin on the date of appointment and shall expire
55 on June 30, 2014. The commission shall elect a chairperson and a vice-
56 chairperson from among its members who shall each serve in such
57 capacity for a period of two years. Any person absent from (A) three
58 consecutive meetings of the commission, or (B) fifty per cent of such
59 meetings during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned
60 from the commission, effective immediately.

61 (5) Vacancies on the commission shall be filled by the appointing
62 authority. Members of the commission shall serve without
63 compensation but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
64 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
65 their duties. The commission shall meet as often as deemed necessary
66 by the chairperson or a majority of the commission.

67 (b) The commission shall:

68 (1) Focus its efforts on the following quality of life desired results
69 for the Bosnian American population of the state: (A) That all members
70 of the Bosnian American population of the state are healthy; (B) that all
71 members of the Bosnian American population are safe; (C) that all
72 members of the Bosnian American population of the state achieve
73 educational success; (D) that all members of the Bosnian American
74 population of the state are economically self-sufficient; and (E) that all
75 members of the Bosnian American population of the state are free from
76 discrimination. The commission shall meet regularly to review matters
77 pertaining to the achievement of the desired results described in
78 subparagraphs (A) to (E), inclusive, of this subdivision and, not later
79 than January first, annually, shall submit a status report concerning

80 such desired results to the joint standing committee of the General
81 Assembly having cognizance of appropriations. The commission shall
82 develop (i) appropriate population-level indicators of the state's
83 progress in achieving such desired results, and (ii) strategies that are
84 intended to improve progress on such indicators through a process
85 that is inclusive of all relevant partners, including, but not limited to,
86 state and local government agencies, the faith community, the business
87 sector, nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups and philanthropic
88 organizations;

89 (2) Make recommendations to the General Assembly and the
90 Governor for new or enhanced policies, programs and services that
91 will foster progress in achieving the desired results described in
92 subdivision (1) of this subsection;

93 (3) Review and comment on any proposed state legislation or
94 recommendations that may affect the Bosnian American population of
95 the state and provide copies of any such comments to members of the
96 General Assembly;

97 (4) Advise the General Assembly and Governor concerning the
98 coordination and administration of state programs that affect the
99 Bosnian American population of the state;

100 (5) Gather and maintain current information regarding the Bosnian
101 American population of the state that can be used to better understand
102 the status, condition and contributions of such Bosnian American
103 population. Such information shall be included in the annual report
104 described in subsection (c) of this section and shall be made available
105 to legislators and other interested parties upon request;

106 (6) Maintain a liaison between the Bosnian American population of
107 the state and government agencies, including the General Assembly;
108 and

109 (7) Conduct educational and outreach activities intended to raise
110 awareness of critical issues for the Bosnian American population of the

111 state.

112 (c) Not later than January first, annually, in accordance with section
113 11-4a of the general statutes, the commission shall submit a report to
114 the General Assembly that: (1) Identifies the quality of life desired
115 results described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, (2)
116 displays current trend data for the indicators related to each such
117 desired result area, (3) identifies barriers to progress on such
118 indicators, (4) identifies strategies developed pursuant to subdivision
119 (1) of subsection (b) of this section, and (5) describes performance
120 measures for the commission, including measures of research,
121 education and outreach, and partnership development.

122 (d) In carrying out its responsibility to make recommendations to
123 the General Assembly and the Governor on the need for legislation,
124 policies, programs or services to improve the quality of life for
125 members of the Bosnian American population of the state, the
126 commission shall have the assistance of the staff and other resources of
127 the Office of Legislative Management. Any such recommendations
128 shall be provided solely with the approval of a majority of the
129 members of the commission. A majority of the members of the
130 commission shall be required to approve any specific advocacy before
131 the General Assembly or any state agency.

132 (e) The commission may: (1) Request, and shall receive, from any
133 state agency such information and assistance as the commission may
134 require; (2) use such funds as may be available from federal, state or
135 other sources and may enter into contracts to carry out the purposes of
136 this section; (3) utilize voluntary and uncompensated services of
137 private individuals, state or federal agencies and organizations as may,
138 from time to time, be offered and needed; (4) recommend policies to
139 federal agencies and political subdivisions of the state relative to the
140 Bosnian American population of the state; (5) accept any gift, donation
141 or bequest for the purpose of performing the duties described in
142 subsection (b) of this section; (6) hold public hearings; (7) establish task
143 forces, as necessary, to perform the duties described in subsection (b)

144 of this section; and (8) inform leaders of business, education, state and
145 local governments and the communications media of the nature and
146 scope of the problems faced by the Bosnian American population of
147 the state, with a view to enlisting such persons' support in working
148 toward solving such problems.

149 (f) The commission shall be part of the Legislative Department.

150 (g) The commission may enter into any agreement with a state
151 agency for the purpose of maximizing the receipt of federal funds by
152 such state agency, provided such state agency shall utilize any federal
153 funds received as a result of such agreement to perform those statutory
154 duties of such agency that relate to such commission's duties. The
155 commission may accept that portion of federal funds received by any
156 such state agency as a result of any such agreement which federal law
157 otherwise permits to be received by such commission."