

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SHB 1631

*As Passed House
March 12, 1991*

Title: An act relating to the commission on African-American affairs.

Brief Description: Establishing in statute the commission on African-American affairs.

Sponsor(s): By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Wineberry, McLean, Franklin, Anderson, Ballard, Ebersole, Ferguson, Miller, Hine, Horn, Prince, Prentice, Holland, O'Brien, May, Wang, Fuhrman, Belcher, Bowman, Heavey, Van Luven, Phillips, Paris, Hargrove, Lisk, Spanel, Moyer, Braddock, Brumsickle, R. Fisher, D. Sommers, Appelwick, Padden, R. Meyers, Peery, Tate, Jones, Betrozoff, Cole, Dorn, Grant, Ludwig, Valle, Rayburn, Sheldon, Riley, H. Myers, Pruitt, Nelson, Kremen, Zellinsky, Dellwo, Sprenkle, Jacobsen, Scott, Rust, Ogden, G. Fisher, Bray, Cantwell, Inslee, Brough, R. King, Winsley, Basich, Leonard, Locke, Orr, Cooper, Brekke, Rasmussen, P. Johnson and Casada).

Brief History:

Reported by House Committee on:
State Government, February 15, 1991, DP;
Appropriations, March 5, 1991, DPS;
Passed House, March 12, 1991, 96-0.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT**

Majority Report: *Do pass.* Signed by 9 members: Representatives Anderson, Chair; Pruitt, Vice Chair; McLean, Ranking Minority Member; Bowman, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Chandler; Grant; Moyer; O'Brien; and Sheldon.

Staff: Linda May (786-7135).

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS**

Majority Report: *The substitute bill be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.* Signed by 26 members: Representatives Locke, Chair; Inslee, Vice Chair;

Spanel, Vice Chair; Silver, Ranking Minority Member; Morton, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appelwick; Belcher; Bowman; Brekke; Dorn; Ferguson; Fuhrman; Lisk; May; McLean; Mielke; Nealey; Peery; Pruitt; Rust; H. Sommers; Sprenkle; Valle; Vance; Wang; and Wineberry.

Staff: Patricia Cazares (786-7071).

Background: On June 20, 1989, the governor signed Executive Order 95-05 establishing the Washington State Commission on African-American Affairs. The commission consists of nine members, who are appointed by the governor. The commission is administered by an executive director, who is also appointed by the governor. The first commission members and executive director were appointed in November 1989. In addition to the executive director, there are two staff members with the commission.

The commission has adopted as its mission the development and promotion of public policy to enhance the social, health, economic, political and educational welfare of African-American people in Washington.

The governor's proposed budget contains a request for \$284,000 for the commission for the 1991-93 biennium.

Summary of Bill: The Washington State Commission on African-American Affairs is established in statute. The act is null and void unless funds are appropriated for the 1991-93 biennium.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: (State Government): The commission has already been a credit to Washington, particularly in assessing baseline conditions among the state's African-American citizens. Establishing the commission in statute gives it more permanence. The work of the commission benefits others as well as African-Americans.

(Appropriations): The commission has already been a credit to the state of Washington, particularly in assessing baseline conditions among the state's African-American citizens. The work of the commission is broad-based and has had a positive impact on others as well as on African-Americans.

Testimony Against: (State Government): None.

(Appropriations): None.

Witnesses: (State Government): Representative Rosa Franklin; Representative Jesse Wineberry; and James Kelly and T.J. Vassar, WA State Commission on African-American Affairs (all in favor).

(Appropriations): James Kelly, Executive Director, Washington State Commission on African-American Affairs.