LEGISLATIVE BILL 442

Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

Read first time January 15, 2021

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to create the Commission on
2 Asian American Affairs.
3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
Section 1. (1) There is hereby established the Commission on Asian American Affairs. For purposes of sections 1 to 7 of this act, commission means the Commission on Asian American Affairs.

(2) The commission shall consist of fourteen members who shall be of Asian ancestry. Members of the commission shall be appointed by the Governor. The commission may have such nonvoting, ex officio members as shall be appointed by the commission and who need not be of Asian ancestry. The commission shall elect one of its members as chairperson.

(3) Members of the commission shall serve four-year terms or for the unexpired term in the event of a vacancy. As the terms of the voting members expire, their successors shall be appointed by the Governor from a panel of nominees submitted by the public. An appointment for an unexpired term shall follow the same procedure as for initial and subsequent appointments. Voting members shall be eligible for reappointment.

Sec. 2. The purpose of the commission is to join representatives of Asian Americans in Nebraska to do all things which the commission may determine to enhance the cause of Asian American rights and to develop solutions to problems common to all Asian Americans residing in Nebraska.

Sec. 3. The commission may receive and administer funds from state, federal, and other sources and may employ and fix the compensation of an executive director of its own choosing who shall be an Asian American person and a legal resident of the State of Nebraska. An office for the executive director shall be provided.

Sec. 4. The functions of the commission are to:

(1) Promote state and federal legislation beneficial to the Asian American community in Nebraska;

(2) Coordinate programs relating to the Asian American community in Nebraska regarding housing, education, welfare, medical and dental care, employment, economic development, law and order, and related problems;

(3) Work with other state and federal government agencies and
federal and state elected officials in the development of programs in the
areas described in subdivision (2) of this section;

(4) Keep the Governor's office apprised of the status of affairs in
the Asian American community in Nebraska;

(5) Administer sections 1 to 7 of this act;

(6) Provide the public with information and education relevant to
Asian American affairs in Nebraska; and

(7) Develop programs to encourage the total involvement of Asian
American people in activities for the common benefit of the Asian
American community.

Sec. 5. The members of the commission shall each receive fifty
dollars for each day spent in the performance of their duties and shall
receive reimbursement for any expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to
81-1177.

Sec. 6. (1) The commission shall meet at least once every calendar
quarter. Meetings shall be held in January, April, July, and October.
Special meetings may be called at the request of eight voting members.
Eight voting members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the
transaction of business.

(2) The office of any member of the commission who, without a valid
excuse, fails to attend quarterly or special meetings shall be vacant.

Sec. 7. (1) For purposes of administration of the commission during
the interim between regular quarterly meetings, there is hereby
established an executive board of the Commission on Asian American
Affairs consisting of the chairperson of the commission and four members
of the commission.

(2) The executive board may enter into contracts for consultation
services, supplies, and equipment, if the amount contracted for does not
exceed two thousand dollars in any one contract, and may supervise all
programs relating to the affairs of Asian American people residing in
Nebraska instituted and authorized by the commission.