



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 624*

132nd General Assembly
(As Reported by H. State & Local Government)

Rep. Kent

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the New African Immigrants Grant and Gift Fund in the state treasury to be used by the New African Immigrants Commission in furtherance of its duties established under continuing law.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

New African Immigrants Grant and Gift Fund

The bill creates the New African Immigrants Grant and Gift Fund in the state treasury. The New African Immigrants Commission is established under continuing law to promote awareness of and advise others regarding sub-Saharan African people. As a function of its duties, the Commission may apply for and accept grants and gifts from governmental or private sources. Any grants or gifts the Commission receives must be placed in the Fund, which also consists of any money the General Assembly appropriates to it. The Commission must use the Fund to support its duties, listed below, established under existing law and unchanged by the bill:

- Gather and disseminate information and conduct hearings, conferences, investigations, and special studies on problems and programs concerning sub-Saharan African people;
- Secure appropriate recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of sub-Saharan African people to Ohio;

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House State and Local Government Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

- Stimulate public awareness of the problems of sub-Saharan African people by conducting a program of public education;
- Develop, coordinate, and assist other public and private organizations that serve sub-Saharan African people, including the conducting of training programs for community leadership and service project staff;
- Advise the Governor, General Assembly, and state departments and agencies of the nature, magnitude, and priorities of the problems of sub-Saharan African people;
- Advise the Governor, General Assembly, and state departments and agencies on, and assist in the development and implementation of, comprehensive and coordinated policies, programs, and procedures focusing on the special problems and needs of sub-Saharan African people, especially in the fields of education, employment, energy, health, housing, welfare, and recreation;
- Propose new programs concerning sub-Saharan African people to public and private agencies and evaluate for such agencies existing programs or prospective legislation concerning sub-Saharan African people;
- Review and approve grants to be made from federal, state, or private funds that are administered or subcontracted by the Commission;
- Prepare, review, and approve an annual report;
- Serve as a clearinghouse to review and comment on all proposals to meet the needs of sub-Saharan African people that are submitted to it by public and private agencies;
- Apply for and accept grants and gifts from governmental and private sources to be administered by the Commission or subcontracted to local agencies;
- Monitor and evaluate all programs subcontracted to local agencies by the Commission;
- Endeavor to assure that sub-Saharan African people have access to decision-making bodies in all state and local governmental departments and agencies;

- Establish advisory committees on special subjects as needed to facilitate and maximize community participation in the operation of the Commission;
- Establish with state and local governments and private business and industry relationships that promote and assure equal opportunity for sub-Saharan African people in government, education, and employment;
- Create an interagency council to provide and coordinate the exchange of information relative to the needs of sub-Saharan African people and promote the delivery of state services to such people.¹

HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced
Reported, H. State & Local Gov't

05-01-18

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¹ R.C. 4112.33. See also R.C. 4112.31 and 4112.32, not in the bill.

