

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 07-0739

Introduced by: Councilmembers Mitchell, Kraft, Middleton, Conaway, Welch, Clarke, Young,
D'Adamo, Curran, Harris, Reisinger, Crider
Introduced and read first time: July 16, 2007
Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Council action: Approved
Read second time: December 3, 2007

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

Baltimore City Hispanic Commission

FOR the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Hispanic Commission; providing for the appointment, terms, powers, and duties of the Commission; providing for staff to the Commission; and generally relating to assisting the City's Hispanic population.

BY adding

Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
Section(s) 52-1 through ~~52-8~~ 52-9, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle,
"Subtitle 52. Baltimore City Hispanic Commission"
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

Baltimore City Code

Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies

Subtitle 52. Baltimore City Hispanic Commission

§ 52-1. COMMISSION ESTABLISHED.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

THERE IS A BALTIMORE CITY HISPANIC COMMISSION.

(B) *COMPOSITION – VOTING MEMBERS.*

(1) THE COMMISSION COMPRISES 9 VOTING MEMBERS;~~2~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 (2) OF THESE:

2 (I) 8 ~~70~~ SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE IV,
3 § 6 OF THE CITY CHARTER; AND

4 (II) 1 SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL, APPOINTED BY THE CITY
5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

6 (3) AT LEAST 5 OF THE VOTING MEMBERS SHALL BE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HISPANIC
7 COMMUNITY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

8 (C) COMPOSITION – NON-VOTING MEMBERS.

9 THE FOLLOWING NON-VOTING MEMBERS ALSO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION:

10 (1) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MAYOR’S OFFICE;

11 (2) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, OR THE DIRECTOR’S
12 DESIGNEE;

13 (3) THE COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, OR THE
14 COMMISSIONER’S DESIGNEE;

15 (4) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, OR THE DIRECTOR’S DESIGNEE;
16 AND

17 (5) THE CEO OF THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, OR THE CEO’S
18 DESIGNEE.

19 **§ 52-2. PURPOSE.**

20 THE HISPANIC COMMISSION IS DEDICATED TO:

21 (1) IDENTIFYING AND DEFINING ISSUES CONCERNING THE RIGHTS AND NEEDS OF
22 BALTIMORE’S HISPANIC COMMUNITY.

23 (2) ADVISING THE MAYOR AND CITY AGENCIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELEVANT
24 POLICIES, PLANS, AND PROGRAMS THAT AFFECT HISPANICS.

25 (3) ADVISING THE CITY COUNCIL ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE CITY’S HISPANIC
26 COMMUNITY.

27 (4) ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS WITH CITY AGENCIES AND MEMBERS
28 OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

29 (5) CREATING A CENTRAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR BALTIMORE’S HISPANIC
30 COMMUNITY.

31 (6) REVIEWING AND COMMENTING ON ANY PROPOSED LEGISLATION, REGULATION,
32 POLICY, OR PROGRAM THAT AFFECTS THE HISPANIC POPULATION.

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§ 52-3. TERMS, COMPENSATION, VACANCIES.

(A) *TERMS OF OFFICE.*

(1) COMMISSION MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR SERVE FOR A TERM OF 4 YEARS, CONCURRENT WITH THE ~~TERMS~~ TERM OF THE MAYOR ~~AND THE CITY COUNCIL~~. THE MEMBER APPOINTED FROM THE CITY COUNCIL SERVES FOR A TERM CONCURRENT WITH THAT MEMBER'S TERM ON THE CITY COUNCIL.

(2) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

(B) *COMPENSATION; EXPENSES.*

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION:

(1) ARE NOT ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES; BUT

(2) ARE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES INCURRED, AS PROVIDED IN THE ORDINANCE OF ESTIMATES.

(C) *VACANCIES.*

(1) A MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY MUST MEET THE SAME QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE MEMBER BEING SUCCEEDED.

(2) A MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY IN AN UNEXPIRED TERM OR TO SUCCEED A MEMBER WHO IS HOLDING OVER SERVES ONLY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THAT TERM.

§ 52-4. OFFICERS; COMMITTEES.

(A) *OFFICERS.*

(1) THE MAYOR SHALL DESIGNATE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION TO SERVE AS ~~ITS CHAIR~~ THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.

(2) MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ~~MAY~~ SHALL BY MAJORITY VOTE SELECT ANY OTHER OFFICERS THEY CONSIDER NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE.

(B) *COMMITTEES.*

THE CHAIR MAY APPOINT COMMITTEES TO ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN CARRYING OUT ITS FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES.

§ 52-5. MEETINGS; QUORUM.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

(1) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR AS FREQUENTLY AS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ITS DUTIES.

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1 (2) A MAJORITY OF THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION CONSTITUTES A QUORUM
2 FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.

3 (3) AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE BY THE MAJORITY OF A QUORUM IS NEEDED FOR ANY OFFICIAL
4 ACTION.

5 (B) *RULES OF PROCEDURE.*

6 THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT RULES OF PROCEDURE TO GOVERN ITS MEETINGS AND
7 OPERATIONS.

8 (C) *FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS.*

9 IF ANY MEMBER IS ABSENT FROM REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS MORE THAN 3 TIMES
10 IN 1 YEAR, NOT COUNTING ABSENCES EXCUSED BY THE CHAIR:

11 (1) THE MEMBER IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE RESIGNED; AND

12 (2) THE CHAIR SHALL REQUEST THE MAYOR TO FILL THE RESULTANT VACANCY.

13 **§ 52-6. PERSONNEL; BUDGET.**

14 (A) *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.*

15 (1) THE COMMISSION MAY APPOINT A PROPERLY QUALIFIED PERSON AS ~~ITS EXECUTIVE~~
16 ~~DIRECTOR~~ THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION, TO SERVE FOR A TERM OF
17 4 YEARS CONCURRENT WITH THE TERM OF THE MAYOR.

18 (2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS ENTITLED TO A SALARY, AS PROVIDED IN THE
19 ORDINANCE OF ESTIMATES.

20 (3) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES THAT THE COMMISSION
21 PRESCRIBES.

22 (B) *STAFF.*

23 (1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY EMPLOY A STAFF AS PROVIDED IN THE ORDINANCE OF
24 ESTIMATES.

25 (2) STAFF MEMBERS SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

26 (C) *VOLUNTEERS.*

27 THE COMMISSION MAY ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF VOLUNTEER WORKERS AND
28 CONSULTANTS, WITHOUT SALARY, AS IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY FROM TIME TO TIME.

29 (D) *BUDGET.*

30 THE COMMISSION MAY EXPEND FUNDS AS AUTHORIZED IN THE ORDINANCE OF
31 ESTIMATES.

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1 **§ 52-7. POWERS AND DUTIES.**

2 (A) *ASSISTANCE TO HISPANIC POPULATION.*

3 THE COMMISSION SHALL ASSIST HISPANICS WHO RESIDE IN THE CITY IN MATTERS
4 RELATING TO:

- 5 (1) EDUCATION OR WORKFORCE TRAINING;
- 6 (2) HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES;
- 7 (3) SPECIAL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES PROVIDED BY FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAWS
8 AND REGULATIONS;
- 9 (4) EMPLOYMENT; AND
- 10 (5) ANY OTHER MATTERS.

11 (B) *INFORMATION RESOURCE.*

12 THE COMMISSION SHALL SERVE AS A RESOURCE FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO ISSUES
13 AFFECTING BALTIMORE HISPANICS.

14 (C) *RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.*

15 THE COMMISSION SHALL:

- 16 (1) CONDUCT RESEARCH, POLICY ANALYSIS, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION AND
17 EDUCATION PROGRAMS ON ISSUES AFFECTING HISPANICS; AND
- 18 (2) INSTITUTE AND CONDUCT OTHER PROGRAMS, MEETINGS, AND CONFERENCES TO
19 PROMOTE EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISPANICS

20 (D) *MONITOR WORKFORCE.*

21 THE COMMISSION SHALL:

- 22 (1) REVIEW AND MONITOR THE CONDITIONS OF HISPANICS IN THE WORKFORCE IN
23 BALTIMORE CITY; AND
- 24 (2) DIRECT ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEMS FACING HISPANICS IN THE WORKFORCE.

25 (E) *ADVISE AND COUNSEL.*

26 THE COMMISSION SHALL:

- 27 (1) ADVISE AND COUNSEL THE MAYOR, THE CITY COUNCIL, AND THE VARIOUS
28 DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE CITY ON ALL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE
29 HISPANIC COMMUNITY; AND

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1 (2) RECOMMEND PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY AND
2 PROPER.

3 (F) *EVALUATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.*

4 THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW AND EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED
5 POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND LEGISLATION AFFECTING HISPANICS.

6 (G) REPRESENTING CITY.

7 THE COMMISSION SHALL ACT AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
8 IN DEALING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN AN EFFORT TO
9 DEVELOP ADDITIONAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC RESOURCES TO PROVIDE BETTER PROGRAMS
10 FOR THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY.

11 **§ 52-8. AGENCY COOPERATION.**

12
13 AT THE REQUEST OF THE COMMISSION, ALL CITY OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES SHALL COOPERATE
14 WITH THE COMMISSION AND EXTEND THE SERVICES AND FACILITIES THAT THE COMMISSION
15 REQUIRES, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES ARE ABLE TO DO SO GIVEN
16 THEIR PERSONNEL AND BUDGETS AS PROVIDED IN THE ORDINANCE OF ESTIMATES.

17 **§ 58-9. ANNUAL REPORT.**

18 THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE MAYOR AN ANNUAL REPORT ON ITS ACTIVITIES.

19 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
20 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
21 Ordinance.

22 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
23 after the date it is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City

