

1 lowering of the income earned, a higher death rate from
2 illness, and a lower life expectancy than males in other
3 ethnic and racial groups.

4 Section 2. Council on the Social Status of Black Men
5 and Boys.--

6 (1) The Council on the Social Status of Black Men and
7 Boys is established and shall consist of 19 members appointed
8 as follows:

9 (a) Two members of the Senate who are not members of
10 the same political party, appointed by the President of the
11 Senate with the advice of the minority leader of the Senate.

12 (b) Two members of the House of Representatives who
13 are not members of the same political party, appointed by the
14 Speaker of the House of Representatives with the advice of the
15 minority leader of the House of Representatives.

16 (c) The Secretary of Children and Family Services or
17 his or her designee.

18 (d) The director of the Mental Health Program Office
19 within the Department of Children and Family Services or his
20 or her designee.

21 (e) The Secretary of Health or his or her designee.

22 (f) The Commissioner of Education or his or her
23 designee.

24 (g) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her
25 designee.

26 (h) The Attorney General or his or her designee.

27 (i) The Secretary of Management Services or his or her
28 designee.

29 (j) The director of Workforce Innovation or his or her
30 designee.

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1 (k) A business person of African-American origin
2 appointed by the Governor.

3 (l) Two persons appointed by the President of the
4 Senate who are not members of the Legislature or employed by
5 state government. One of the appointments must be a clinical
6 physiologist.

7 (m) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House
8 of Representatives who are not members of the Legislature or
9 employed by state government. One of the appointments must be
10 an Africana studies professional.

11 (n) The deputy secretary for Medicaid in the Agency
12 for Health Care Administration or his or her designee.

13 (o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her
14 designee.

15 (2) Each member of the council shall be appointed to a
16 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing staggered
17 terms, of the initial appointments ten members shall be
18 appointed to a 2-year term and eleven members shall be
19 appointed to a 4-year term. A member of the council may be
20 removed at any time by the member's appointing authority who
21 shall fill the vacancy on the council for the remainder of the
22 unexpired term. The terms of the legislative members expire at
23 the time they cease to hold legislative office, and the
24 vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original
25 appointments.

26 (3)(a) At the first meeting of the council each year,
27 the members shall elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson.

28 (b) A vacancy in the office of chairperson or vice
29 chairperson shall be filled by vote of the remaining members.

30 (4)(a) The council shall make a systematic study of
31 the conditions affecting black men and boys, including, but

1 not limited to, the homicide rates, arrest and incarceration
2 rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate
3 annual income levels, and health issues.

4 (b) The council shall propose measures to alleviate
5 and correct the underlying causes of the conditions described
6 in paragraph (a). These measures may consist of changes to law
7 or systemic changes that can be implemented without
8 legislative actions.

9 (c) The council may study other topics suggested by
10 the Legislature or as directed by the chairperson of the
11 council.

12 (d) The council shall receive suggestions or comments
13 pertinent to the applicable issues from members of the
14 Legislature, governmental agencies, public and private
15 organizations, and private citizens.

16 (5) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide
17 staff and administrative support to the council.

18 (6) The council shall meet quarterly and additional
19 meetings may be held at the call of the chairperson and at
20 other times as determined by a majority of council members.

21 (7) Eleven of the members of the council constitute a
22 quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members
23 present is required for final action.

24 (8)(a) The council shall issue its initial annual
25 report by December 15, 2006, and by December 15th of each
26 following year, stating the findings, conclusions, and
27 recommendations of the council. This report shall be submitted
28 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of
29 the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the
30 standing committees of jurisdiction in each chamber.

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