# NEVADA COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS



# Commission on Minority Affairs Overview



Department of Business and Industry Terry Reynolds, Director

## **COMMISSION MEMBERS**



Kathleen Taylor, Chair

- Housing
- Legislative



Angelica Villarta, Vice Chair - Community Liaison

- Workforce Development



Jose Melendrez Healthcare Chair



Nic Steele Economic Development



E. Mercedes Krause Education



**Amy Shaw** 



**Gabriela Wyett** 



John Lau



#### **HISTORY**

- In 2003 the Commission was created as a temporary program during the 72th legislative session
- In 2007 the Commission became a permanent program
- In 2015 the Commission received its first funding
- In 2019 the Commission received more funding
- In 2021 the Commission was authorized to request up to two legislative measures for each regular session



#### **MISSION**

To advocate for and to provide a voice to minorities residing in the State of Nevada in matters relating to areas including, but not limited to: education, housing, employment, civil rights, health, political empowerment and economic development.



#### **PURPOSE**

To be the central advisory body coordinating discussion and study of issues affecting minority Nevadans. These areas include, but are not limited to, education, housing, employment, civil rights, health, political empowerment, and economic development. As well as to consider and facilitate legislation, funding sources, and community organizations geared toward making measurable improvements, in those areas which will raise the quality of life among Nevada's minority community.



#### **DUTIES**

- 1. Collect and disseminate information on activities, programs and essential services available to minorities
- 2. Study the:
  - Matters affecting the social and economic welfare and well-being of minorities
  - Availability of employment for minorities, and the manner in which minorities are employed
  - Manner in which minorities can be encouraged to start and managed their own business
  - Affordability of affordable housing
- 3. Act as a liaison to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission to inform minorities regarding:
  - The laws of the State that prohibit discrimination practices and
  - how to file complaints or take action to remedy discriminatory practices
- 4. Create networks between businesses that are owned by minorities and business that are not owned by minorities
- 5. Advise the Governor on matters and concerns relating to minorities



## **Subcommittees**

- Housing
- Workforce Development
- Economic Development
- Health
- Education
- Community Liaison
- Legislative



#### **Commission Goals**

- 1. Boost visibility as a central advisory body that gives a voice to minority issues
- 2. Become a hub for statewide minority data collection and dissemination
- 3. Encourage discussion and facilitate connections between minority advocates
- 4. Track and submit legislation that will make measurable improvements to the quality of life for Nevada minorities





## Thank you!

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