

Office of Minority Health Legislation

Public Health Law

§ 240. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this article:

1. "Minority area" shall mean a county with a non-white population of forty percent or more, or the service area of an agency, corporation, facility or individual providing medical and/or health services whose non-white population is forty percent or more.
2. "Minority health care provider" or "minority provider" shall mean any agency, corporation, facility, or individual providing medical and/or health care services to residents of a minority area.
3. "Office" shall mean the office of minority health, as created pursuant to section two hundred thirty-eight-a of this article.
4. "Minority health council" shall mean that advisory body to the commissioner, created pursuant to the provisions of section two hundred thirty-eight-c of this article.

* NB There are 2 § 240's

§ 241. **Office of minority health created.** There is hereby created an office of minority health within the state department of health. Such office shall:

1. Integrate and coordinate selected state health care grant and loan programs established specifically for minority health care providers and residents. As part of this function, the office shall develop a coordinated application process for use by minority providers, municipalities and others in seeking funds and/or technical assistance on pertinent minority health care programs and services.
2. Apply for grants, and accept gifts from private and public sources for research to improve and enhance minority health care services and facilities. The office shall also promote minority health research in universities and colleges.
3. Together with the minority health council, serve as liaison and advocate for the department on minority health matters. This function shall include the provision of staff support to the minority health council and the establishment of appropriate program linkages with related federal, state, and local agencies and programs such as the office of minority health of the public health service, the agricultural extension service and migrant health services.
4. Assist medical schools and state agencies to develop comprehensive programs to improve minority health personnel supply by promoting minority clinical training and curriculum improvement, and disseminating minority health career information to high school and college students.
5. Promote community strategic planning or new or improved health care delivery systems and networks in minority areas. Strategic network planning and development may include such considerations as personnel,

capital facilities, reimbursement, primary care, long-term care, acute care, rehabilitative, preventive, and related services on the health continuum.

6. Review the impact of programs, regulations, and health care reimbursement policies on minority health services delivery and access.

* NB There are 2 § 241's

§ 242. Preparation and distribution of reports. The department shall submit a biennial report to the governor and the legislature describing the activities of the office and health status of minority areas. The first such report shall be transmitted on or before September first, nineteen hundred ninety-four. Such report shall contain the following information:

1. Activities of the office of minority health, expenditures incurred in carrying out such activities, and anticipated activities to be undertaken in the future.

2. Progress in carrying out the functions and duties listed in section two hundred thirty-eight-a of this article.

3. An analysis of the health status of minority citizens and the status of minority health delivery systems. Such analysis shall be conducted in cooperation with the minority health council and other interested agencies.

4. Any recommended improvements to programs and/or regulations that would enhance the cost effectiveness of the office, and programs intended to meet the health care needs of minority citizens.

* NB There are 2 § 242's

§ 243. Minority health council. 1. Appointment of members. There shall be established in the office of minority health a minority health council to consist of the commissioner and fourteen members to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. Membership on the council shall be reflective of the diversity of the state's population including, but not limited to, the various minority populations throughout the state.

2. Terms of office; vacancies. a. The terms of office of members of the minority health council shall be six years. The members of the council shall continue in office until the expiration of their terms and until their successors are appointed and have qualified. Such appointments shall be made by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, within one year following the expiration of such terms.

b. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired terms within one year of the date upon which such vacancies occur. Any vacancy existing on the effective date of paragraph c of this subdivision shall be filled by appointment within one year of such effective date.

c. In making appointments to the council, the governor shall seek to

ensure that membership on the council reflects the diversity of the state's population including, but not limited to the various minority populations throughout the state.

3. Meetings. a. The minority health council shall meet as frequently as its business may require, and at least twice in each year.

b. The governor shall designate one of the members of the public health and health planning council as its chair.

4. Compensation and expenses. The members of the council shall serve without compensation other than reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses.

5. Powers and duties. The minority health council shall, at the request of the commissioner, consider any matter relating to the preservation and improvement of minority health, and may advise the commissioner thereon; and it may, from time to time, submit to the commissioner, any recommendations relating to the preservation and improvement of minority health.