133

## No. 52

## AN ACT

## SB 441

Amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744), entitled, as amended, "An act prohibiting certain practices of discrimination because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age or national origin by employers, employment agencies, labor organizations and others as herein defined; creating the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission in the Department of Labor and Industry; defining its functions, powers and duties; providing for procedure and enforcement; providing for formulation of an educational program to prevent prejudice; providing for judicial review and enforcement and imposing penalties," authorizing appointment and payment of joint staff for local commissions.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 12.1, act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744), known as the "Pennsylvania Human Relations Act," added January 24, 1966 (P.L.1523), is amended to read:

Section 12.1. Local Human Relations Commissions.—(a) The legislative body of a political subdivision may, by ordinance or resolution, authorize the establishment or membership in and support of a Local Human Relations Commission. The number and qualifications of the members of any local commission and their terms and method of appointment or removal shall be such as may be determined and agreed upon by the legislative body, except that no such member shall hold office in any political party. Members of a local commission shall serve without salary but may be paid expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(b) The legislative body of any political subdivision shall have the authority to appropriate funds, in such amounts as may be deemed necessary, for the purpose of contributing to the operation of a local commission *including the payment of its share of the salary of an investigator or staff member acting jointly for it and one or more other local commissions.* 

(c) The local commission shall have the power to appoint such employes and staff, as it may deem necessary, to fulfill its purpose including the power to appoint an investigator or staff member to act jointly for it and one or more other local commissions.

(d) The legislative bodies of political subdivisions shall have the authority to grant to local commissions powers and duties similar to those now exercised by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission under the provisions of this act.

APPROVED-The 5th day of March, A. D. 1970.

## **RAYMOND P. SHAFER**

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of Act of the General Assembly No. 52.

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Secretary of the Commonwealth.