



State Senator Stephanie Kunze
Ohio's 16th Senate District

State Senator Sandra Williams
Ohio's 21st Senate District

Senate Bill 30
Sponsor Testimony
February 19, 2019

Chairman Coley, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Craig and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 30.

As the year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote, Senate Bill seeks to create the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission consisting of the following members:

1. The Secretary of State or the Secretary's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the Commission;
2. Two members (not of the same political party) of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
3. Two members of the House of Representatives (not of the same political party) appointed by the Speaker of the House;
4. One member of the Ohio Republican Party appointed by the chairperson of the Ohio Republican Party;
5. One member of the Ohio Democratic Party appointed by the chairperson of the Ohio Democratic Party;
6. Any additional members appointed by the Secretary of State in order to assist the Commission in fulfilling its duties.

The Secretary of State shall provide any necessary equipment and facilities and assign any necessary professional, technical, or clerical employees of the Secretary to assist the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission in fulfilling its duties. An emergency clause is also included to ensure that the commission can begin their work immediately once this legislation is enacted into law.

This Commission's purpose is to plan and carry out events and activities throughout Ohio and educate the public during the year 2020 to raise awareness of the importance and historical significance of the Nineteenth Amendment and to honor the women's suffrage movement.

The Commission may enter into contracts and execute all instruments necessary or incidental to the performance of the Commission's duties and a "Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Fund" will be created in the state treasury. These funds will consist of any moneys appropriated or donated to the Fund and any interest earned on the moneys in the Fund. The Commission may solicit and accept grants, gifts, or donations from any lawful source and shall deposit all such grants, gifts, or donations in the state treasury to the credit of the Fund. The Commission shall use the moneys in the Fund for the purpose of carrying out the Commission's duties. Any unobligated balance remaining in the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Fund at the conclusion of its work shall be deposited in the General Revenue Fund.

Those serving on this Commission shall serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses and their terms will expire on December 31, 2020. There is also a provision included that the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, and the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Fund, will sunset on December 31, 2020 as their statutory purposes will conclude.

Chairman Coley and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 30. We are happy to answer any questions that the committee might have.