

**As Introduced**

**131st General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2015-2016**

**S. B. No. 30**

**Senator Tavares  
Cosponsors: Senators Brown, Thomas, Hite, Skindell**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 5101.345 of the Revised Code to 1  
create the Ohio Family Stability Commission and 2  
to repeal section 5101.345 of the Revised Code 3  
four years after the effective date of that 4  
section. 5

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 5101.345 of the Revised Code be 6  
enacted to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 5101.345.** (A) There is hereby created in the 8  
department of job and family services the Ohio family stability 9  
commission. The commission shall consist of four members of the 10  
general assembly and twenty-one individuals who are government 11  
agency representatives, private citizens, or elected officials 12  
other than members of the general assembly. 13

Of the general assembly members, two shall be appointed by 14  
the president of the senate, each from a different political 15  
party, and two shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of 16  
representatives, each from a different political party. 17

The remaining members shall be appointed by the governor 18

<u>as follows:</u>	19
<u>(1) Two with expertise in out-of-wedlock births;</u>	20
<u>(2) Two with expertise in marital divorce;</u>	21
<u>(3) One with expertise in education;</u>	22
<u>(4) One with expertise in employment;</u>	23
<u>(5) One with expertise in child support;</u>	24
<u>(6) One with expertise in child custody;</u>	25
<u>(7) One with expertise in child abuse and neglect;</u>	26
<u>(8) One with expertise in domestic violence;</u>	27
<u>(9) Two with expertise in the judicial system;</u>	28
<u>(10) Two with expertise in criminal justice;</u>	29
<u>(11) Two with expertise in faith-based initiatives;</u>	30
<u>(12) Two with expertise in fatherhood programs;</u>	31
<u>(13) Two with expertise in philanthropic or nonprofit management;</u>	32 33
<u>(14) One with expertise in mass media or communications.</u>	34
<u>Commission members shall serve at the pleasure of their</u>	35
<u>appointing authorities. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner</u>	36
<u>provided for original appointments. Members shall serve without</u>	37
<u>compensation, except to the extent that serving on the</u>	38
<u>commission is considered part of their regular duties of</u>	39
<u>employment.</u>	40
<u>(B) The commission shall be staffed by personnel of the</u>	41
<u>department of job and family services. This division does not</u>	42
<u>require the department to employ personnel the department</u>	43

otherwise would not have employed. 44

(C) (1) During its first year of operation, the commission 45  
shall conduct research and formulate recommendations for 46  
consideration by the general assembly, appropriate state 47  
agencies, and other appropriate entities concerning societal 48  
issues that impact the stability of families in this state. The 49  
recommendations shall provide the general assembly, appropriate 50  
state agencies, and other appropriate entities with strategies, 51  
both legal and otherwise, for addressing the issues. 52

At a minimum, the commission's research and 53  
recommendations shall address all of the following: 54

(a) The divorce rate in this state and strategies for 55  
reducing the divorce rate; 56

(b) The birth rate among unmarried individuals in this 57  
state and strategies for reducing the number of births occurring 58  
outside of marriage; 59

(c) The rate of domestic violence, including child abuse, 60  
in this state and strategies for reducing that rate; 61

(d) Issues concerning child custody and child support. 62

(2) During its second year of operation, the commission 63  
shall advise the general assembly, appropriate state agencies, 64  
and other appropriate entities on ways to implement the 65  
recommendations formulated under division (C) (1) of this 66  
section. 67

(3) During its third year of operation, the commission 68  
shall continue to provide advice regarding implementation of the 69  
recommendations formulated under division (C) (1) of this section 70  
and begin monitoring implementation. 71

At the end of its third year of operation, the commission shall issue a report to the general assembly regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations. 72  
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(4) During its fourth year of operation, the commission shall conduct activities to ensure continued implementation of the recommendations formulated under division (C)(1) of this section and, if applicable, enforcement of the recommendations. 75  
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At the end of its fourth year of operation, the commission shall issue a report to the general assembly regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations. 79  
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**Section 2.** Section 5101.345 of the Revised Code is hereby 82  
repealed effective the first day of the forty-ninth month after 83  
the effective date of this act. 84