

As Introduced

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

2021-2022

S. B. No. 67

Senator Williams

Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Antonio, Maharath, Thomas, Fedor



A BILL

To establish a committee to study the progress and 1
challenges of African Americans in Ohio and to 2
make an appropriation. 3

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

Section 1. (A) (1) There is hereby established a committee, 4
in recognition of the 400th anniversary of African Americans in 5
Ohio and the United States, to study the progress and challenges 6
of African Americans in Ohio. The committee shall review various 7
reports on African Americans in Ohio, including the Report of 8
the Ohio Commission on Racial Fairness, the Governor's Task 9
Force Report on Black and Minority Health, and any reports 10
prepared by public or private research institutions in Ohio that 11
the committee determines are relevant. 12

(2) After reviewing the reports specified under division 13
(A) (1) of this section, the committee shall prepare an initial 14
report of all of the following: 15

(a) The progress or lack of progress of African Americans 16
in Ohio with respect to housing, transportation, health, 17
education, employment, environment, business development, and 18

any other policy area that the committee chooses to consider;	19
(b) The contributions and achievements by African Americans in Ohio;	20 21
(c) Recommendations for addressing the challenges identified under division (A) (2) of this section for African Americans in Ohio.	22 23 24
Not later than December 31, 2021, the committee shall submit its initial report to the General Assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code and to the news media of Ohio. The committee shall include with the report an announcement of the schedule of hearings it will hold on the report in accordance with division (A) (3) of this section.	25 26 27 28 29 30
(3) Not earlier than three months after submitting its initial report under division (A) (2) of this section, the committee shall reconvene for the purpose of holding hearings in various parts of the state regarding its initial report. The committee shall determine how many hearings to hold, the schedule for these hearings, and the locations in which these hearings will be held. These hearings shall be held over a period of time that does not exceed four months.	31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38
The committee shall announce the schedule of the hearings at the time it releases its initial report under division (A) (2) of this section.	39 40 41
(4) Following the completion of the hearings held by the committee under division (A) (3) of this section, the committee shall revise its initial report based on the information gathered during the hearings. Not later than October 31, 2022, the committee shall submit its final report to the General Assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code	42 43 44 45 46 47

and to the news media of Ohio. Upon submission of the final 48
report under division (A) (4) of this section, the committee 49
shall be abolished. 50

(B) (1) The committee shall consist of ten members 51
appointed by the Governor, five members appointed by the 52
President of the Senate, five members appointed by the Minority 53
Leader of the Senate, five members appointed by the Speaker of 54
the House of Representatives, and five members appointed by the 55
Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. The appointed 56
members shall be representatives of all of the following: 57

(a) The Ohio History Connection; 58

(b) The National Museum of Afro-American History and 59
Culture; 60

(c) Public and private research institutions in Ohio, 61
including the John Glenn College of Public Affairs at the Ohio 62
State University, the Kirwan Institution for the Study of Race 63
and Ethnicity at the Ohio State University, Case Western Reserve 64
University, Cleveland State University, and the Health Policy 65
Institute of Ohio; 66

(d) The Ohio Civil Rights Commission. 67

(2) Not later than thirty days after the effective date of 68
this section, the committee shall hold its first meeting and 69
select a chairperson and vice-chairperson. 70

(3) The committee may, in its discretion, establish 71
subcommittees and designate members of the committee to serve on 72
those subcommittees. Each subcommittee may, in its discretion, 73
add members to the subcommittee that are not members of the 74
committee appointed under division (B) (1) of this section. 75

(4) The committee shall select, through an application process, a research institute to provide staff support to the committee. 76
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(5) Committee members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. 79
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Section 2. All items in this section are hereby appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 2020 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2021. The appropriations made in this act are in addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium. 81
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Section 3. 89

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A	OHS OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION				
B	General Revenue Fund				
C	GRF	360509 Outreach and Partnership		\$0	\$140,000
D	TOTAL GRF General Revenue Fund			\$0	\$140,000
E	TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$0	\$140,000

OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIP 91

The amount appropriated by this act to the foregoing appropriation item 360509, Outreach and Partnership, in fiscal 92
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year 2021 shall be used to pay the expenses of the committee to 94
study the progress and challenges of African Americans in Ohio 95
in carrying out its functions established in Section 1 of this 96
act. An amount equal to the unexpended, unencumbered portion of 97
the foregoing appropriated amount at the end of fiscal year 2021 98
is hereby reappropriated for the same purpose in fiscal year 99
2022. 100

Section 4. Within the limits set forth in this act, the 101
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 102
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 103
made in this act, and shall determine the form and manner in 104
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures 105
from operating appropriations contained in this act shall be 106
accounted for as though made in the main operating 107
appropriations act of the 133rd General Assembly. The operating 108
appropriations made in this act are subject to all provisions of 109
the main operating appropriations act of the 133rd General 110
Assembly that are generally applicable to such appropriations. 111