

HB 1449 -- BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: Bland Manlove

This bill establishes the "Missouri Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Task Force".

The mission of the Task Force shall be to evaluate and make recommendations regarding issues affecting BIPOC communities or the BIPOC community as a whole; improving support and employment of BIPOC communities by state vendors and contractors; ways to improve health, safety, economic and educational opportunities, government access, and quality-of-life improvements for BIPOC communities; and educational initiatives to promote treatment and equality for BIPOC communities. The Task Force will gather information by holding public hearings, taking testimony from members of the public, and consult with BIPOC organizations.

The Task Force shall consist of 17 members:

(1) Eight people representing each federal congressional district in Missouri, to be appointed by the President Pro Tem and Minority Floor Leader of the Missouri Senate, with no more than four members from the same political party;

(2) Nine people, to be appointed by the Speaker and Minority Floor Leader of the Missouri House of Representatives, with no more than five members from the same political party. These members shall have subject matter expertise that includes the business community, health care, housing, education, community issues and public safety issues.

The Task Force shall collect its recommendations and submit an annual report to the Human Rights Commission, the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Missouri Supreme Court before September 30, 2022.