

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2564

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BARINGER.

5189H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 374, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the Missouri-Ireland trade commission.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 374, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 374.1000, to read as follows:

**374.1000. 1. There is hereby established within the department of commerce
2 and insurance the "Missouri-Ireland Trade Commission".**

3 2. The commission shall consist of twelve members to be appointed as follows:

**4 (1) Two members of the house of representatives with current or past
5 involvement in organizations that promote Irish affairs or shall have an interest in the
6 well-being of trade relations between Missouri and Ireland appointed by the speaker of
7 the house of representatives, neither of whom shall be from the same political party;**

**8 (2) Two members of the senate with current or past involvement in organizations
9 that promote Irish affairs or shall have an interest in the well-being of trade relations
10 between Missouri and Ireland appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate,
11 neither of whom shall be from the same political party;**

**12 (3) Four members appointed by the governor, at least two of whom shall be
13 members representing Irish-American communities and no more than two of whom
14 shall be from the same political party; and**

**15 (4) Four members appointed by the director of the department of commerce and
16 insurance, at least one of whom shall be from a public institution of higher education,**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 one of whom shall be from the Missouri chamber of commerce or its successor
18 organization, and not more than two of whom shall be from the same political party.

19 3. Members of the general assembly appointed to the commission shall serve
20 only while they are members of the general assembly. If a member of the general
21 assembly on the commission resigns or otherwise leaves office, he or she shall also leave
22 the commission. Members of the commission appointed by the governor or the director
23 of the department of commerce and insurance shall serve a term of two years and shall
24 serve until their successor is appointed and installed. All vacancies on the commission
25 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

26 4. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation but may be
27 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, subject
28 to appropriation.

29 5. The commission shall meet at least twice annually and may meet anywhere
30 within the state.

31 6. In even-numbered years, the speaker of the house of representatives shall
32 select the chair of the commission and the president pro tempore of the senate shall
33 select the vice chair of the commission. In odd-numbered years, the president pro
34 tempore of the senate shall select the chair of the commission and the speaker of the
35 house of representatives shall select the vice chair of the commission.

36 7. A majority of members shall constitute a quorum.

37 8. The purpose of the commission shall be to:

38 (1) Advance bilateral trade and investment between Missouri and Ireland;

39 (2) Initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Missouri and
40 Ireland;

41 (3) Promote business and academic exchanges between Missouri and Ireland;

42 (4) Encourage mutual economic support between Missouri and Ireland;

43 (5) Encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Missouri and Ireland;

44 and

45 (6) Address other issues as determined necessary by the commission.

46 9. The commission shall issue a report to the governor and to the general
47 assembly within one year of its initial organizational meeting and on February first of
48 each year thereafter. The report shall include recommendations from the commission to
49 effectuate its purpose.

50 10. The commission shall be authorized to raise funds through direct solicitation
51 or other fundraising events alone or in conjunction with other groups and to accept
52 gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental
53 agencies, and public and private organizations to defray the costs of the commissions

54 **administrative expenses and to carry out its purpose. The funds shall be held by the**
55 **director of the department of commerce and insurance for use by the commission.**

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