

4.

The Commission:

(1) Shall stimulate and encourage throughout the State study and review of the status of women in the State and may act as a clearinghouse for all activities to avoid duplication of effort;

(2) Shall strengthen home life by directing attention to critical problems confronting women as wives, mothers, homemakers and workers;

(3) Shall recommend methods of overcoming discrimination against women in public and private employment, and encourage women to become candidates for public office;

(4) Shall promote more effective methods for enabling women to develop their skills, continue their education, and to be retrained;

(5) May make surveys and appoint advisory committees in the fields of, but not limited to, education, social services, labor laws and employment policies, law enforcement, health and safety, new and expanded services, legal rights, family relations, human relations, and volunteer services;

(6) Shall secure appropriate recognition to women's accomplishments and contributions to this State; [and]

(7) Shall work to develop healthy attitudes within the framework of the Commission's responsibilities; AND

(8) SHALL INFORM THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT ON ISSUES CONCERNING WOMEN, INCLUDING OFFERING TESTIMONY ON THESE ISSUES BEFORE LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES.

5.

(a) The Commission, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, may accept federal funds granted by Congress or executive order for all or any of the purposes of this article as well as private gifts and donations from individuals, private organizations or foundations. However, the acceptance and use of federal funds shall not be considered a commitment of State funds and places no obligation upon the legislature to continue the purposes for which the funds are made available.

(b) The Department shall include the Commission in its annual budget.

6.

The Commission shall have the full cooperation of all executive departments and agencies of the State in the performance of its duties.