

# THE GOVERNOR

## Title 4—ADMINISTRATION

### PART I. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

[4 PA. CODE CH. 5]

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1997-3]

### Pennsylvania Commission for Women

June 25, 1997

*Whereas*, over 50 percent of the population of Pennsylvania is female; and

*Whereas*, the need for a strong advocate for the rights of women in all areas of the Commonwealth is no less today than it was upon creation of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women initially; and

*Whereas*, further measures should be taken to increase state efforts to ensure that women have full and equal opportunity to serve in every capacity as citizens of the Commonwealth, free of gender discrimination; and

*Whereas*, women must be educated to represent and protect themselves, their families, and their children in Pennsylvania.

*Now, Therefore*, I, Thomas J. Ridge, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby reestablish the Pennsylvania Commission for Women (hereinafter referred to as "Commission") to perform the powers, duties, and functions set forth herein.

#### Annex A

#### TITLE 4. ADMINISTRATION

#### PART I. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

#### CHAPTER 5. COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

#### Subchapter F. PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

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#### § 5.61. Functions.

The Pennsylvania Commission for Women:

- (1) Monitors women's educational and employment needs and opportunities.
- (2) Promotes job training, educational programs and upward mobility for women.
- (3) Encourages the development of and access to funding for small business enterprises owned or operated by women.
- (4) Promotes women for appointed positions in State government, the judicial system and local government.
- (5) Issues a biennial report on programs affecting women that are administered by State agencies.
- (6) Issues a biennial report on new State laws affecting women.
- (7) Serves as a liaison between government and nongovernmental groups and organizations whose purposes relate to the interests of women.

(8) Assists women's groups to institute local self-help activities designed to meet educational, employment and related needs.

(9) Serves as a data bank for collecting and disseminating information, using the Internet and other current technologies.

(10) Holds public hearings, informal hearings, meetings with advisory groups and conferences regarding any matter related to the accomplishment of its purposes.

(11) Proposes Legislation with the assistance of the General Assembly.

(12) Provides an annual report and recommendations for action to the Governor and to the General Assembly.

(13) Performs other functions that it deems appropriate in furtherance of these responsibilities.

#### **§ 5.62. Composition.**

(a) The Pennsylvania Commission for Women (Commission) consists of 17 members to be appointed by the Governor. The Majority and Minority leaders of both chambers of the General Assembly each provide a list to the Governor of four candidates and the Governor will appoint two members of the Commission from each list. The members, to the extent practicable, represent diverse geographic, racial and ethnic groups and have expertise in fields such as aging, health care, business, education, agriculture, public welfare, child care, insurance and finance, labor and corrections. At least half of the Commissioners are female.

(b) The Governor, in consultation with the Commission members, designates one Commission member to serve as chairperson and one Commission member to serve as vice-chairperson. The chairperson and vice-chairperson serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(c) The Governor, in consultation with the Commission members, appoints an Executive Director of the Commission who serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The Executive Director reports to the Governor and assists the Commission members in implementing the purposes of this subchapter.

(d) The Executive Director, with the approval of the Governor, employs other persons as needed for the proper administration of the Commission.

#### **§ 5.63. Terms of membership.**

(a) Members are appointed for terms of 2 years. The members serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(b) If a vacancy occurs on the Pennsylvania Commission for Women due to resignation, disability or death of a member, the Governor will appoint a successor as expeditiously as possible and the successor will serve the duration of the unexpired term. A successor so appointed may thereafter be reappointed.

#### **§ 5.64. Compensation.**

Members of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women receive no compensation for their service except that the members may be reimbursed for actual travel and related expenses in accordance with Commonwealth policy.

#### **§ 5.65. Relationship with other agencies.**

To implement the purpose of this subchapter, the Pennsylvania Commission for Women (Commission) may request and receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or another agency of the State or a political subdivision thereof or public authority, cooperation, assistance, information and data needed by the Commission to properly carry out its powers and duties.

#### **§ 5.66. Funding.**

The Office of the Budget will establish within the General Fund a restricted account for the deposit of gifts and private donations received from third parties for use by the Pennsylvania Commission for Women.

**§ 5.67. Procedures.**

(a) The Pennsylvania Commission for Women (Commission) will meet quarterly and a majority of the Commissioners serving at any time constitutes a quorum. In addition, the Commission may hold public hearings to evaluate the effectiveness of Commonwealth services and programs to female residents.

(b) The Commission is authorized to establish subcommittees and rules and procedures for the effective implementation of its functions consistent with this subchapter.

**§ 5.68. Effective date.**

This subchapter is effective June 25, 1997, and shall continue in effect unless revised or modified by the Governor.

**§ 5.69. Rescission.**

Executive Order 1975-3 is rescinded.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Ridge". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

*Governor*

**Fiscal Note:** GOV 97-12. No fiscal impact; (8) recommends adoption.

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