

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

EXECUTIVE ORDER 95-124

CREATING THE OHIO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gained worldwide respect for his achievements, and remains an inspiration to all people who cherish justice, courage, faith, non-violence and freedom; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has adopted Ohio Revised Code Section 1.14, setting the third Monday in January as an official State Holiday to commemorate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, the State recognizes that a statewide annual celebration and commemoration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. serves to promote a day of inter-racial cooperation, youth anti-violence, community service, other principles of non-violent social change and racial equality as proposed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, an annual celebration and commemoration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for all 50 states is supported and promoted by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated state effort is essential to maximize efforts to enhance the organization, planning, and promotion of widespread public participation in a statewide celebration and commemoration; and

WHEREAS, this coordinated and cooperative effort can best be achieved by and through a state commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George V. Voinovich, Governor of the State of Ohio, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Ohio, do hereby create the Ohio Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday commission, which shall include the following structure, powers, and duties:

- A. The commission shall consist of thirteen (13) members, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The commission is to include as many of the following as practicable:
1. A member of the State Senate upon the recommendation of the Senate majority leader.
 2. A member of the State House of Representatives upon the recommendation of the House majority leader.
 3. Representatives from the religious, labor, and business communities.
 4. Representative(s) from the field of education.
 5. Representative(s) from civil rights organization.
 6. Representative(s) of county and municipal governments.
 7. Representative(s) from organizations that provide charitable services to individuals.
 8. Advocate(s) of and/or for youth groups.
- B. The Governor shall designate one member to serve as Chairperson of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission for one year.
- C. Member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission shall serve the following terms of office:
1. The members of the General Assembly appointed to serve as members of the Commission shall serve for a single term not to exceed three years and shall serve as a

member only while he or she is a member of the General Assembly.

2. Of the initial appointments to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, five (5) of the members shall serve a one year term, four (4) of the members shall serve a two year term, and four (4) of the members shall serve a three year term. Thereafter, members of the Commission, except for members appointed to fill an unexpired term, shall serve for a term of three years. Members of the Commission may be reappointed for three year terms.

3. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the membership of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the balance of the unexpired term.

D. The members of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission shall serve without compensation, except each member shall be reimbursed for his or her actual and reasonable expenses incurred in the discharge of his or her duties.

E. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission shall coordinate and plan a statewide celebration and commemoration for the official state and federal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The celebration and commemoration shall be held on the Thursday before the third Monday in January of each year.

F. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission shall develop and submit to the Governor recommendations for specific activities, initiatives, and programs to be undertaken by the State each year for the statewide

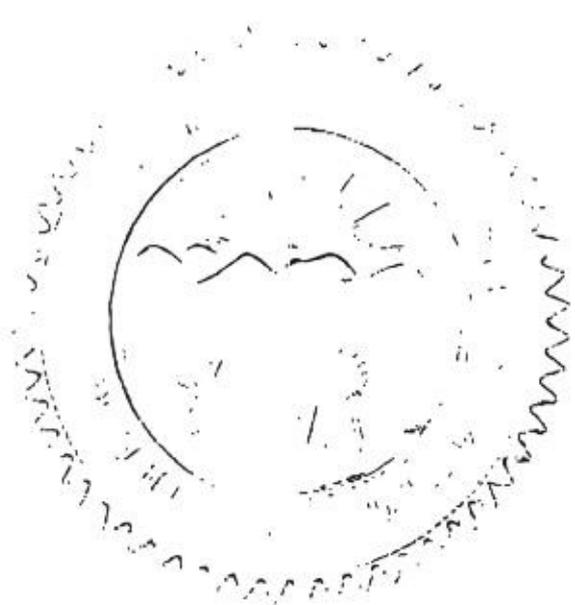
celebration and commemoration. In accordance with this responsibility, the Commission shall also:

1. Promote widespread public participation in the activities and ceremonies commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr..
2. Coordinate the State's initiatives, programs, and projects with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Commission.
3. Gather information relative to other memorials, initiatives, programs and projects commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr..
4. Report major initiative, programs, projects, and other commemorative activities conducted in the State of Ohio to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-violent Social Change located in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, through the Equal Opportunity Center, shall provide such services to the Commission as are necessary for the Commission to effectively discharge its obligations, and shall take whatever other measures are necessary to implement this Executive Order.

Effective with this Order, I hereby revoke Executive Order 85-59 and all other Executive Orders issued which are inconsistent with this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed at Columbus, Ohio this the 8th day of September, in the year of our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Five.



George V. Voinovich
George V. Voinovich
Governor

ATTEST:

Bob Taft
Secretary of State

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio

on 9-8-95

BOB TAFT
Secretary of State

Per Colleen Cable