

**As Introduced**

**129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012**

**S. B. No. 24**

**Senator Tavares**

—

**A B I L L**

To enact section 5101.345 of the Revised Code to 1  
create the Ohio Family Stability Commission and to 2  
repeal section 5101.345 of the Revised Code four 3  
years after the effective date of that section. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 5101.345 of the Revised Code be 5  
enacted to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 5101.345.** (A) There is hereby created in the department 7  
of job and family services the Ohio family stability commission. 8  
The commission shall consist of twenty-five members, four of whom 9  
shall be members of the general assembly and twenty-one of whom 10  
shall be government agency representatives, private citizens, or 11  
elected officials other than members of the general assembly. Two 12  
of the four general assembly members shall be appointed by the 13  
president of the senate and shall be members of different 14  
political parties. The other two general assembly members shall be 15  
appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and shall 16  
be members of different political parties. The remaining 17  
twenty-one members who are government agency representatives, 18  
private citizens, or elected officials shall be appointed by the 19  
governor in accordance with the following: 20

<u>(1) Two shall have expertise in out-of-wedlock births;</u>	21
<u>(2) Two shall have expertise in marital divorce;</u>	22
<u>(3) One shall have expertise in education;</u>	23
<u>(4) One shall have expertise in employment;</u>	24
<u>(5) One shall have expertise in child support;</u>	25
<u>(6) One shall have expertise in child custody;</u>	26
<u>(7) One shall have expertise in child abuse and neglect;</u>	27
<u>(8) One shall have expertise in domestic violence;</u>	28
<u>(9) Two shall have expertise in the judicial system;</u>	29
<u>(10) Two shall have expertise in criminal justice;</u>	30
<u>(11) Two shall have expertise in faith-based initiatives;</u>	31
<u>(12) Two shall have expertise in fatherhood programs;</u>	32
<u>(13) Two shall have expertise in philanthropic or nonprofit management;</u>	33 34
<u>(14) One shall have expertise in mass media or communications.</u>	35 36
<u>The members of the commission shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments. Members shall serve without compensation, except to the extent that serving on the commission is considered part of their regular duties of employment.</u>	37 38 39 40 41 42
<u>(B) The commission shall be staffed by personnel of the department of job and family services. This division does not require the department to employ personnel who the department otherwise would not have employed.</u>	43 44 45 46
<u>(C)(1) During its first year of operation, the commission shall conduct research and formulate recommendations to the</u>	47 48

general assembly, appropriate state agencies, and other 49  
appropriate entities concerning societal issues that impact the 50  
stability of families in this state. The recommendations shall 51  
provide the general assembly, appropriate state agencies, and 52  
other appropriate entities with strategies, both legal and 53  
otherwise, for addressing the issues. 54

At a minimum, the commission's research and recommendations 55  
shall address all of the following: 56

(a) The divorce rate in this state and measures and 57  
strategies for reducing the divorce rate; 58

(b) The birth rate among unmarried individuals in this state 59  
and measures and strategies for reducing the number of births 60  
occurring outside of marriage; 61

(c) The rate of domestic violence, including child abuse, in 62  
this state and measures and strategies for reducing that rate; 63

(d) Issues concerning child custody and child support. 64

(2) During its second year of operation, the commission shall 65  
work with the general assembly, appropriate state agencies, and 66  
other appropriate entities to implement the recommendations 67  
formulated under division (C)(1) of this section; 68

(3) During its third year of operation, the commission shall 69  
continue to work toward implementation of the recommendations 70  
formulated under division (C)(1) of this section and begin 71  
monitoring their implementation. The commission shall issue a 72  
report to the general assembly at the end of its third year of 73  
operation regarding the status of the implementation of the 74  
recommendations. 75

(4) During its fourth year of operation, the commission shall 76  
conduct activities ensuring the continued implementation and, if 77  
applicable, the enforcement of the recommendations formulated 78

under division (C)(1) of this section. The commission shall issue 79  
a report to the general assembly at the end of its fourth year of 80  
operation regarding the status of the implementation of the 81  
recommendations. 82

(D) After the issuance of its report under division (C)(4) of 83  
this section, the commission shall cease to exist. 84

**Section 2.** Section 5101.345 of the Revised Code is hereby 85  
repealed effective the first day of the forty-ninth month after 86  
the effective date of this act. 87