

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
MAINE STATE

OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 25 FY 06/07
DATE January 5, 2007

**AN ORDER TO CREATE THE SUB-CABINET FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
AND THE MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, nearly four percent of Maine's population is comprised of residents of color and this population continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, members of this population comprise a multicultural community that live throughout every area of Maine; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20,000 immigrants from all over the world represent a significant part of Maine's multicultural population and that number is also expected to grow in the future; and

WHEREAS, immigrants, particularly, and the communities where they settle are faced with the challenge of providing services to individuals with diverse language and culture backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, it is a responsibility of State Government to deliver services efficiently and effectively to all Maine residents; and

WHEREAS, the historic contributions of multicultural communities to our state and nation are an unquestionable part of our success; and

WHEREAS, the diverse issues encountered by multicultural residents necessitate the implementation of a statewide multicultural policy that will centralize the planning and coordination of services from multiple state agencies and oversee the implementation of such services in the communities where residents of color live:

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN E. BALDACCI, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby create the Multicultural Affairs Sub-Cabinet (hereinafter referred to as the Sub-Cabinet) and the Multicultural Affairs Advisory Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council):

I. Multicultural Affairs Sub-Cabinet

A. Purpose

The Sub-Cabinet is established to promote interdepartmental collaboration on multicultural policy development and program implementation and to support the provision of services to multicultural residents that are planned, managed and delivered in a holistic and integrated manner to improve their self-sufficiency, safety, economic stability, health and quality of life.

B. Duties of the Sub-Cabinet

The Sub-Cabinet shall collaborate to create, manage and promote coordinated policies, programs, and service delivery systems that support multicultural services. To accomplish these purposes, the Sub-Cabinet shall carry out the following duties:

- *Data Assessment:* Assess the needs of the multicultural population and the resource capacity and allocations available to address those needs;
- *Planning and policy development:* Conduct long-range planning and policy development enabling a more effective public and private service delivery system;
- *Interdepartmental funding streams:* Foster collaboration of funding and budgets among the departments of the Sub-Cabinet related to multicultural affairs in order to share resources, remove barriers and support initiatives that meet the needs of Maine's multicultural residents;
- *Interdepartmental service delivery:* Foster coordination regarding delivery of multicultural service among the departments;
- *Multicultural Affairs Advisory Council:* Appoint members to the Multicultural Affairs Advisory Council and establish the frequency of Council meetings necessary to assure effectiveness of its contribution to the delivery of services. The Sub-Cabinet shall have the authority to revise the membership of the Council as deemed necessary. Each Sub-Cabinet agency shall appoint senior staff representatives to support the work of the Council;
- *Subcommittees:* Appoint subcommittees, which may include members from any public or private agency, advisory committee or any citizen, who has appropriate interest and expertise in multicultural affairs, as may be necessary to carry out the work of the Sub-Cabinet;
- *Program Integrity:* Improve policies and programs through the review of specific case examples; and
- *Public Awareness:* Broadly communicate the work of the Sub-Cabinet to the Council, multicultural agencies, providers, communities and members of the general public.

C. Program Implementation and Oversight

The Sub-Cabinet shall initiate, implement and oversee programs, policies and services, which may include but are not limited to:

- Developing a state plan for multicultural affairs that includes short-term and long-term service strategies;
- Monitoring of state services to assure effective and efficient delivery of services;
- Developing centralized data collection systems;
- Recommending timely policy changes based on current trends and corresponding needs in multicultural communities; and
- Supporting a collaborative effort between communities and state government, to effectively address problems facing the state's multicultural population by mobilizing the resources of state government with resources and leadership at the community level.

D. Membership

The Sub-Cabinet shall be comprised of representatives from the following departments, agencies, and providers:

- The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Labor or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Education or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development or designee
- The Director of the State Planning Office or designee
- The Director of the Maine State Housing Authority or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety or designee
- The President of the Maine Community College System or designee
- The Chancellor of the University of Maine system or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture or designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation or designee
- The Director of the Finance Authority of Maine or designee

The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services or designee will chair the Sub-Cabinet.

The Sub-Cabinet shall be staffed by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Administrative support shall be provided out of existing resources by the departments represented on the Sub-Cabinet.

E. Annual report

The Sub-Cabinet shall provide an annual report to the Governor. The annual report shall include the following:

- A strategic plan detailing initiatives, goals and objectives for addressing challenges facing the Multicultural population as identified by the annual needs assessment; and
- A listing of the activities undertaken by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Council over the last year.

II. Multicultural Affairs Advisory Council

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Sub-Cabinet of service delivery issues and multicultural needs and to recommend strategies and policies for improving the delivery of services to the state's multicultural population.

B. Duties of the Council

The Council shall collaborate to advise and assist the Sub-Cabinet in carrying out its duties. The Council shall also serve as an advocate on behalf of multicultural populations to the Sub-Cabinet regarding emerging issues involving service delivery and accessibility. The Council shall advise and assist the Sub-Cabinet with duties including but not limited to:

- Data Assessment
- Planning and Policy Development
- Program Integrity
- Public Awareness
- Interdepartmental Service Delivery
- Development and Function of Subcommittees

C. Membership

The Council shall be comprised of representatives from the following entities:

- Multicultural service providers
- Municipalities with significant multicultural populations
- School districts with significant multicultural populations

Membership is not limited to these stakeholders and may be revised by the Sub-Cabinet as necessary.

The Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, DHHS, shall chair the Council. The Office of Multicultural Affairs will provide staff and administrative services to the Council as needed.

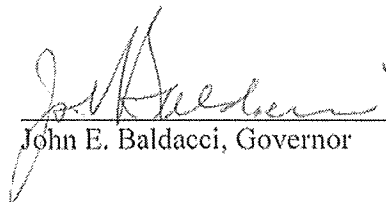
All Council members shall serve without compensation or reimbursement.

III. Implementation Costs

The costs for implementing the duties included in this Executive Order shall be absorbed by the participating agencies.

IV. Effective Date

The effective date of this Executive Order is January 5, 2007. This Order supersedes Executive Order 09 FY 06/07.



John E. Baldacci, Governor