

CHAPTER 130**(HCR 53)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the Legislative Research Commission to study the impact of immigration on public services and the private sector.

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of the Census indicates that immigration will be an increasing feature of population growth in the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to the March 1999 Current Population Survey, Kentucky is experiencing significant immigration growth, with an increase of eighty-eight percent in the number of immigrants coming into the Commonwealth from 1997 to 1999; and

WHEREAS, immigrants are a growing part of the Kentucky labor force, filling occupations experiencing a shortage of labor, such as physicians in rural Kentucky and agricultural workers in tobacco and horse farm areas; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Immigration Studies reports that immigrant households are more likely to live in poverty than native households; and

WHEREAS, there exists no comprehensive study of immigration's impact on Kentucky;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. That the House of Representatives and the Senate direct the Legislative Research Commission to study the impact of immigration on public services and the private sector in Kentucky. The study shall include a descriptive analysis of the current status of immigration in Kentucky and an analysis of the fiscal and economic impact of immigration on the state. The study shall address the following subjects:

- (1) The number of immigrants, their country of origin, and their demographic profile;
- (2) The location of immigrants within the state;
- (3) Length and duration of residence in the state;
- (4) Services immigrants are likely to need, the cost of the services, and the governmental or other organizations that bear the cost;
- (5) The state and federal benefits for which immigrant households are eligible;
- (6) Indirect costs and benefits from immigration;
- (7) Employment patterns of immigrants in Kentucky and their effect on the availability of labor in those sectors in which they are employed; and
- (8) The level of spending by immigrants and its impact on the local and state economy.

Section 2. The Legislative Research Commission shall transmit the results of the study required by Section 1 of this Resolution to the appropriate interim joint committees prior to the 2002 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Section 3. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved March 16, 2000

