

**CHAPTER 96****(SB 37)**

AN ACT relating to reorganization.

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth President of the United States, was one of this nation's most outstanding leaders and a native son of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln was born near Hodgenville, Kentucky, on February 12, 1809, to Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and rose from humble circumstances to steer this nation through the Civil War, one of the greatest crises of its history; and

WHEREAS, President Lincoln was instrumental in ending slavery in these United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, this nation will celebrate the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has passed legislation to create the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to study and recommend suitable federal activities to honor Abraham Lincoln during his bicentennial year; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky to plan and carry out its own bicentennial tributes to Abraham Lincoln, and to coordinate those activities with those of the federal government;

NOW THEREFORE,

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 171 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

***There is created the Commonwealth of Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, which shall be attached to the Kentucky Historical Society for administrative purposes. The commission shall be composed of twenty (20) members, as follows:***

- (1) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;***
- (2) Two (2) members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;***
- (3) The secretary of the Education, Arts, and Humanities Cabinet, or his or her designee;***
- (4) One (1) member from the Tourism Development Cabinet, appointed by the secretary of that cabinet;***
- (5) One (1) member from the Kentucky Historical Society, appointed by the director of that agency;***
- (6) One (1) member from the Kentucky Heritage Council, appointed by the executive director of that agency;***
- (7) One (1) member from the Kentucky African-American Heritage Commission, appointed by the head of that agency;***
- (8) One (1) member from the Kentucky Humanities Council, appointed by the executive director of that agency;***

- (9) *One (1) member from the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission established by the United States Congress, appointed by the concurrence of the chairs of that agency;*
- (10) *The Larue County judge/executive, or his or her designee;*
- (11) *One (1) member from the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace, appointed by the superintendent of that national historic site;*
- (12) *One (1) member from the Lincoln Museum in Hodgenville, appointed by the president of that agency;*
- (13) *One (1) member from the Mary Todd Lincoln House in Lexington, appointed by the head of that agency;*
- (14) *One (1) member from the Farmington Historic Home museum in Louisville, appointed by the head of that agency; and*
- (15) *Four (4) citizen members from the state at large with a demonstrated interest in history and substantial knowledge and appreciation of Abraham Lincoln, appointed by the Governor.*

*The chair of the commission shall be elected from among the membership by the commission members.*

SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 171 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

*The Commonwealth of Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission shall:*

- (1) *Study and recommend activities that may be carried out by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to honor Abraham Lincoln on the occasion of the bicentennial anniversary of his birth;*
- (2) *Educate Kentucky residents and the nation about the life of Abraham Lincoln during the years he resided in and visited the state in which he was born;*
- (3) *Assist local governments and organizations with planning, preparation, and grant applications for bicentennial events and projects;*
- (4) *Coordinate federal, state, and local bicentennial activities occurring in Kentucky;*
- (5) *Plan and implement appropriate events, including celebrations and educational initiatives, to commemorate the bicentennial;*
- (6) *Perform other duties as necessary to highlight Kentucky's role in the life of Abraham Lincoln; and*
- (7) *Seek federal grants and philanthropic support for bicentennial activities.*

SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 171 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

*The Commonwealth of Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission shall expire on June 30, 2010.*

Section 4. In order to reflect the reorganization effectuated by this Act, the reviser of statutes shall replace references in the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the agencies, subagencies, and officers affected by this Act with references to the appropriate successor agencies, subagencies, and officers established by this Act. The reviser of statutes shall base these actions

on the functions assigned to the new entities by this Act and may consult with officers of the affected agencies, or their designees, to receive suggestions.

Section 5. The General Assembly hereby confirms Executive Order 2004-616, dated June 18, 2004, to the extent it is not otherwise confirmed or superseded by this Act.

**Approved March 16, 2005.**