

**CHAPTER 395****SOCIAL EQUITY PROGRAM****§13301. Social equity program established**

In accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the Department of Economic and Community Development, referred to in this chapter as "the department," shall establish and administer a social equity program, referred to in this chapter as "the program," to increase workforce development programs and provide support to individuals who are members of impacted communities and businesses that are owned by members of impacted communities. For purposes of this chapter, "impacted community" means a racial, ethnic or tribal population that has experienced incarceration at rates disproportionate to the racial, ethnic or tribal population's rate of criminality starting in or about the year 1971 and as a result the racial, ethnic or tribal population has experienced direct or indirect discrimination in access to housing, employment and education. The department may employ consultants, contract for services or enter into agreements with private and public entities, such as other state agencies, as necessary for the establishment and implementation of the program as long as costs associated with the program do not exceed \$300,000 per biennium. [PL 2023, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2023, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).

**§13302. Social Equity Program Advisory Committee**

The Social Equity Program Advisory Committee, established by section 12004-I, subsection 6-L and referred to in this chapter as "the advisory committee," serves to advise the department on the development and implementation of the program. The advisory committee has 5 members who are members of impacted communities. Two members of the advisory committee are appointed by the President of the Senate and 3 members are appointed by the Speaker of the House. The first-named member appointed by the Speaker of the House is the chair of the advisory committee. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee, shall convene the advisory committee as necessary to carry out its advisory duties. [RR 2023, c. 2, Pt. A, §14 (COR).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2023, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW). RR 2023, c. 2, Pt. A, §14 (COR).

**§13303. Report**

By December 15, 2026, and biennially thereafter, the department shall file a report with the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic and community development matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over cannabis matters detailing the components of the program, the progress and impact of the program and its components and the activities of the advisory committee. Each joint standing committee may report out legislation in the regular or special session of the Legislature in which the report was filed. [PL 2023, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2023, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).

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