

FILE OF THE CITY CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE NO. 05- 2024

ADMINISTRATION BILL NO. 05- 2024

INTRODUCED – APRIL 9, 2024

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL – APRIL 24, 2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER CHAPTER §125-DISCRIMINATION TO COMBINE THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION AND THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ADVISORY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING THAT THE ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Lancaster that the City of Lancaster Code Chapter 125 – be and hereby is amended as follows:

Section 1. The Code of the City of Lancaster, Chapter 125– Discrimination §125-5- Lancaster City Human Relations Commission, be and hereby is amended to read as follows:

- A. The Lancaster City Human Relations Commission (the Commission) shall administer, implement and enforce the provisions of this chapter.
- B. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of thirteen members appointed by the Mayor, with the prior approval of the Council of the City of Lancaster. The members shall reflect the cultural, racial, economic, religious, gender and physically impaired groups in the City and efforts should be made to have at least one member be fluent in both the languages of English and Spanish.
- C. Persons appointed as Commissioners shall serve for terms of three years, provided that in making the first appointments to the Commission, two members shall be appointed for terms of one year each, two members shall be appointed for terms of two years each, and one member shall be appointed for a term of three years. Members may be reappointed. Each member of the Commission shall continue to serve after the term until a successor is appointed. In the event of a vacancy due to the death, resignation, removal or any other reason, the Chairperson of the Commission shall notify the Mayor in writing of the vacancy. Thereafter, the Mayor, with the prior approval of City Council, shall appoint an individual to serve the remainder of vacated term.
- D. The Commission shall elect one of its members as Chairperson and may elect such other officers as it may deem necessary. The Chairperson may, with the approval of the Commission, appoint such committees as may be necessary to carry out the powers and duties of the Commission. The Commission may authorize such committees to take any necessary action for the Commission.
- E. The Commission shall hold meetings as required, but shall convene at least two times during each calendar year. Three members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of votes of those present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be sufficient for any action taken by the Commission, except approval of the majority of all members shall be required before any public hearing be held.

- F. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with appropriations made by the City.
- G. The Commission shall adopt such rules and policies for its own organization as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission in implementing, administering and enforcing this chapter.
- N. In addition to other duties as set forth herein, Commissioners shall be responsible for the development and implementation of programs, materials, workshops, seminars and other educational endeavors which will promote good human relations among the diverse individuals and groups of the City and which will help prevent unlawful discriminatory practices. The Commission shall keep the Mayor and City Council updated as to its schedule of upcoming events.

Section 2. Upon enactment of this Ordinance, all members of the Human Relations Commission shall remain the same and all members of the Human Relations Advisory Council shall be deemed members of the Human Relations Commission, all for the terms they were previously appointed for.

Section 3. All ordinances or resolutions or parts of ordinances or resolutions insofar as they are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and rescinded.

Section 4. In the event any provision, section, sentence, clause or part of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this Ordinance; it being the intent of the City of Lancaster that the remainder of the Ordinance shall be and shall remain in full force and effect.


Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective as provided by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

DULY ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 24th day of April, 2024, by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

CITY OF LANCASTER

By 
Danene Sorace, Mayor

ATTEST:


Bernard W. Harris, Jr.
City Clerk